

PRIEST

Date: 10/19/73

Time Transmitted -

Received -

Photograph

☒ Other PX report dated 10/19/73

□ (4 min)

Mr. [illegible]
Room 302

Approved

DATE 02-21-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

3-11-1968

For the purpose of this study, the following hypotheses were formulated:

3. Results

404

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE PHOENIX	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 10/19/73	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10/19/73
TITLE OF CASE GERALD RUDOLPH FORD		REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]	TYPED BY lss
		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY	

REFERENCE: Detroit teletype to Phoenix dated 10/18/73.
Bureau teletype to Phoenix dated 10/19/73.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-21-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
APPROVED: [Signature]						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES MADE:						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
6 - Bureau (161-9896)							
1 - Phoenix (161-598)							
1 - [illegible]							
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations	
Agency	1 - Bureau						
Request Recd.							
Date Fwd.	10/31/73						
How Fwd.	[illegible]						
By	[illegible]						

COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-21-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

Copy to:

Report of:

[REDACTED]

Office: PHOENIX

Date:

October 19, 1973

Field Office File #:

PX 161-598

Bureau File #: 161-9896

Title:

GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

Character:

SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

GEORGE MORITZ, former Kent County Republican Finance Committee Chairman, advised that he retired from Finance Committee in 1966 or 1967 and has no knowledge of campaign contributions since his retirement. MORITZ further advised that during his 23 years of employment, no campaign problems incurred by FORD.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

AT SEDONA, ARIZONA

On October 19, 1973, GEORGE MORITZ, Retired, was contacted at his residence, 318 Ridge Road, also known as Lazy Bear Estates, Lot 39, telephone number 602-282-4858, and he provided the following information:

MORITZ stated that he has been acquainted with GERALD FORD for approximately 23 years. MORITZ stated that he left his position as Finance Chairman with the Kent County Republican Finance Committee in 1966 or 1967. He further advised that he has absolutely no knowledge of any campaign contributions made after 1966 or 1967 to the Republican Finance Committee, specifically a 1970 amount for \$11,500 supposedly forwarded by the Kent County Fifth District Republican Finance Committee to the Republican National Committee in Washington, D.C.

MORITZ further advised that during all of the years that he was working as Finance Chairman he knows of no misuse of campaign funds or any allegations made against FORD.

1*

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE ALEXANDRIA	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 10/19/73	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10/18/73
TITLE OF CASE GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, aka Gerald Rudolph Ford, Jr., Leslie King, Jr.		REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 15px;"></div>	TYPED BY kma
		CHARACTER OF CASE SPI ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 02-21-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/SIP/bis	

REFERENCE: Detroit teletype to the Bureau, 10/18/73.
Detroit teletype to the Bureau, 10/19/73.

- P -

LEADS:ALEXANDRIA

AT ALEXANDRIA, VA.: Will report results of review of accounts at United Virginia Bank/First and Citizens Bank upon receipt of releases from appointee's children.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
							PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED <i>CB</i>					SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		
COPIES MADE:					DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW		
6 - Bureau (161-9896)					<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: 10px;"></div>		
1 - Alexandria (161-2322)							
<i>1 - [unclear] with [unclear]</i>							
Dissemination Record of Attached Report					Notations		
Agency					<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; margin: 10px;"></div>		
Request Recd.							
Date Fwd.							
How Fwd.							
By							

COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-21-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

Copy to:

Report of:

[REDACTED]

Office: ALEXANDRIA,
VIRGINIA

Date:

OCTOBER 19, 1973

Field Office File #:

161-2322

Bureau File #: 161-9896

Title:

GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

Character:

SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

Associate recommends.

- P -

DETAILS:

AX 161-2322
JVM:krl
1.

ASSOCIATE

The following investigation was conducted at Reston, Virginia, by SA [REDACTED]

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b7c

On October 18, 1973, Mr. ROBERT G. HOWLETT, Chairman, State of Michigan Employment Relations Commission, was contacted at the Sheraton Convention Center, Reston, Virginia, and advised that he has known the appointee since 1941, when the appointee went to Michigan to practice law. He advised that he really became acquainted with the appointee around 1949, when he, HOWLETT, returned to Michigan and became active in Republican Party politics in the Grand Rapids, Michigan, area. He advised that he, HOWLETT, was the Republican County Chairman in Grand Rapids from 1956 through 1961, and that in 1960, he and the appointee were co-delegates to the Republican National Convention from the Fifth District of Michigan.

Mr. HOWLETT advised that during all of the years he has been acquainted with the appointee he has come to regard him as a man of undisputed character, reputation and honesty. He advised that the appointee always divorced himself from the handling of campaign funds and relied on a group of prominent and trustworthy party workers and volunteers to handle financial matters regarding any of his campaigns.

Mr. HOWLETT advised that the appointee has never made to his knowledge any deals or compromises with any individuals or organizations which could be considered illegal or immoral. He advised that the appointee is a man of high principals and strong convictions who he believes would never sell himself to any particular individual or interest group.

Mr. HOWLETT advised that the appointee in his personal life is a modest individual who is happily married and whose family including his wife, his children and his half-brothers are all excellent people. He advised that the appointee as far as he knows has always been a religious man that has done nothing which could be interpreted as immoral or excessive. In addition, he advised that the appointee has always had the ability to meet people and be completely above board and honest and as

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

AN 161-2322

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a result has not been only in the State of Michigan but in the whole country.

Mr. ROBERT advised that the appointee has no outside source of income other than his annual salary as a Congressman and from small proceeds from an old family business. He advised that the appointee lives off of his salary.

Mr. HOWETT advised that he could think of nothing of a derogatory nature concerning the appointee in either his political or personal life which would prohibit him from recommending him for the position of Vice President of the United States. He advised that the appointee with his own native abilities and with the vast amount of experience he has accumulated during his many terms in Congress, should be an outstanding candidate for the Vice Presidency of the United States.

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DATE 02-21-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

NR003 DE PLAIN

11:34 AM URGENT 10-19-73 NMG

TO DIRECTOR

ALEXANDRIA

FROM DETROIT (161-1355) 1P

GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, SPIN; BUDED: PAST.

INVESTIGATION AT DETROIT HAS DETERMINED THAT FOUR ACCOUNTS
EXIST FOR THE CHILDREN OF GERALD R. FORD AT [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA. THE FOLLOWING ARE THE ACCOUNT
NUMBERS:

SUSAN E. FORD,
STEVEN M. FORD,
MICHAEL G. FORD,
JOHN G. FORD,

ALEXANDRIA AT ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA WILL REVIEW THE ABOVE
ACCOUNTS AND DETERMINE THE DATE OPENED, THE CURRENT BALANCE,
THE AVERAGE BALANCE, AND ANY LARGE OR UNUSUAL TRANSACTIONS.

WILL SUBMIT SIX COPIES OF REPORT WITH RESULTS IMMEDIATELY,
NOTING THAT BUDED IS PAST.

-P-

END

CCJ FBIHQ CLR

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-21-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

F B I

Date: 10/19/73

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code) ~~PLAINTEXT~~

Via TELETYPE _____ NITEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (161-9896)
SAC, NEW YORK (161-4579)

FROM: SAC, WFO (161-9324) (P)

GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, SPECIAL INQUIRY, BUDED PAST.

RE BUREAU TELETYPE, 10/15/73 AND 10/19/73.

THIS CONFIRMS WFO TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH NEW YORK
10/19/73.

NEW YORK INTERVIEW FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS FOR COMMENTS
REGARDING APPOINTEE:

LAWRENCE F. O'BRIEN, LAWRENCE F. O'BRIEN ASSOCIATES,
INC., 230 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY (PHONE 744-7909). HOME;
UN PLAZA APARTMENTS, APARTMENT 28A, 870 EAST 49TH STREET,
NEW YORK CITY (PHONE 486-0995).

ROBERT WICK, VICE PRESIDENT, AUDITING AND SECURITY,
PAN AMERICAN AIRLINES, PAN AM BUILDING, 200 PARK AVENUE,
NEW YORK CITY. WICK CAN BE REACHED THROUGH PAN AM VICE
PRESIDENT MALOON (PHONE 659-7700).

1- Bureau
1- Tickler
1- WFO

RST:jea
(3)

Approved: M/S
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

100-21
SECRET AS CARRYING

Priority Immediate

Transmit attached by Facsimile - PLAINTEXT

To: Director
From: New York 161-4579
Subject: Gerald Rudolph Ford

Date: 10/19/73

Time Transmitted -

Received -

- ☐ Fingerprint Photo
- ☐ Fingerprint Record
- ☐ Map
- ☐ Newspaper clipping
- ☐ Photograph
- ☐ Artists Conception
- ☐ Other
- ☒ (5 min)
- ☐ (4 min)

REPORT

Special handling instructions:

Deliver to
SPECIAL INQUIRY UNIT
Approved: SMIS

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-21-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

3-000-000

PG

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE NEW YORK	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 10/19/73	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10/17-19/73
TITLE OF CASE GERALD RUDOLPH FORD		REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div>	TYPED BY QDS
		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY	

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-21-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

REFERENCES

Bureau telephone call to New York, 10/17/73.
Detroit teletype to Bureau, 10/17/73.

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b7C

-P-

ADMINISTRATIVE

It is to be noted that requested the interviewing agent to tape record the conversation between and the interviewing agent. The entire interview was placed on tape.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
						PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED *[Signature]*
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

COPIES MADE: (6) - Bureau
1 - New York (161-4579)

1/26/74 [Signature]

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

Distribution Record of Attached Report				Notations
Copy	1/16/74 [Signature]			
Dist Recd.				
Dist Fwd.	1-21-73			
Dist Fwd.				

NY 161-4579

LEAD

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK.

Will continue efforts to locate and interview ROBERT N.
WINTER-BERGER, author of "The Washington Pay-Off".

Non Symbol Informant Administrative Page

NY T-1



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-21-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

Copy to:

Report of:

Date:

10-19-73

Office: New York, New York

Field Office File #: 161-4579

Bureau File #:

Title:

GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

Character:

SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

Close personal associates, ROBERT E. WICK and LAWRENCE F. O'BRIEN, both consider nominee capable, a person of excellent character, and reputation, and recommend for position of Vice President of the United States. Source advised that nominee had been in partnership with HARRY CONOVER, and each had furnished \$500 to start their own modeling agency in New York City. Source advised FORD never had functional capacity with this agency because he had joined the United States Navy. Upon return from World War II, nominee, according to source, requested \$500,000 for his share of the business. Source stated he settled for "a few thousand dollars."

- P -

Enclosure: One copy of "The Washington Merry-Go-Round" in the January 27, 1970, issue of "The Washington Post," Washington, D. C.

NY 161-4579

DETAILS:

Close Personal Associates

On October 19, 1973, ROBERT E. WICK, Vice President, Audits and Security, Pan American World Airways, 200 Park Avenue, New York, New York, advised that he has known United States Congressman GERALD FORD for about 10 to 12 years and has maintained his contact with him up to the present time. He said that he (WICK) formerly served as Assistant Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D. C., during the period 1964 to 1967. He said that while serving in the aforementioned capacity, he contacted United States Congressmen on the "Hill." He said that he considered Representative GERALD FORD to be a very capable and industrious Congressman. He said that he could furnish no derogatory information regarding Representative FORD's character, morals, reputation, associates, and loyalty to the United States Government. He said that he would heartily recommend Representative FORD for the Vice President of the United States.

On October 19, 1973, LAWRENCE F. O'BRIEN, former cabinet member as Postmaster General under the late President LYNDON B. JOHNSON, Special Assistant to two former Democratic Presidents, JOHN F. KENNEDY and LYNDON B. JOHNSON, and former Democratic National Chairman, 870 East 49th Street, New York City, New York, advised that he has known the appointee since about 1961. He said that he first became acquainted with Representative FORD when he was Special Assistant to President KENNEDY and was handling congressional relations for the President. He said that he had known Representative FORD reasonably well from 1961 to 1968 and considers him to be a man of outstanding character. He stated that appointee is a very dedicated man and loyal to his country. He said that he holds the appointee in the highest regard and considers him to be a man of great credibility. He said he possesses no derogatory information concerning appointee's character, morals, loyalty, associates or reputation. He said he would highly recommend the appointee for Vice President of the United States.

NY 161-4579

Miscellaneous

On October 19, 1973, NY T-1 advised that this source had heard from HARRY CONOVER in the early 1940s that CONOVER, who had been a top male photography model, had put up \$500 along with GERALD FORD, the nominee, who also put up \$500 in order to start a modeling business named "The Conover Agency." The source stated that at this time Representative FORD was a college student and was trying to make his way through college. NY T-1 stated that prior to The Conover Agency taking roots, World War II broke out and Representative FORD joined the United States Navy. The source advised that CONOVER, who was classified 4-F, reportedly because of flat feet, developed this company while Representative FORD, while serving in the United States Navy, actually took no functional part in administering the firm nor did he act in a consulting capacity.

The source stated that when Representative FORD was released from the Navy toward the end or at the end of World War II he had requested his share of the initial investment and because the agency had fared so well he sought \$500,000. NY T-1 advised that Representative FORD settled for "a few thousand dollars."

NY T-1 advised that this source had met the nominee on only one occasion and that all the above information had been furnished to the source by HARRY CONOVER, now deceased.

NY T-1 has furnished insufficient information to determine that source's reliability.

Attempts have been made to contact ROBERT N. WINTER-BERGER the author of "The Washington Pay-Off," who resides at 123 East 75th Street, New York City. It is to be noted that the superintendent and doorman at this residence have not seen him for several days.

Attempts were made to contact WINTER-BERGER through Dell Publishing Company, 1 Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, New York City, the publishing company, which published his book.

It was determined through Dell Publishing Company that his literary agent is LYLE STUART residing at [redacted] New Jersey. On October 19, 1973, it was determined that LYLE STUART is currently in Europe.

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NY 161-4579

Attached is a copy of an article captioned "Representative FORD Linked to Voloshen Friend," which appeared in "The Washington Merry-Go-Round" by Jack Anderson in the January 27, 1970, issue of "The Washington Post," Washington, D. C. This article contains a statement to the effect that Robert Winterberger, an acquaintance of Nathan Voloshen, described as a "fixer," operated occasionally out of Representative FORD's office.

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

THE WASHINGTON POST Tuesday, Jan. 27, 1970

C13

Rep. Ford Linked to Voloshen Friend

By Jack Anderson

The respected name of House GOP Leader Gerald Ford has been caught up in the investigation of fixer Nathan Voloshen and suspended House aide Martin Sweig.

The two wheeler-dealers have been indicted by a New York grand jury for using Speaker John McCormack's office for influence peddling. This column has now learned that an acquaintance of Voloshen's, Robert Winterberger, operated occasionally out of Ford's office.

Winterberger has avoided prosecution by cooperating with the grand jury. He is expected to appear as a government witness against Voloshen and Sweig at their trial.

Early in the investigation, Assistant Attorney General Will Wilson, who runs the Justice Department's Criminal Division, paid a secret call upon Ford to question him about Winterberger.

The GOP leader, who will succeed Speaker John McCormack if the Republicans should win control of the House in November, acknowledged to this column that Winterberger had dropped by his

office occasionally but denied any knowledge of wrongdoing. Ford said he had turned Winterberger over to his administrative assistant, Frank Meyer, who had made some "routine" inquiries such as "any congressional office would have done" for him.

Ford also recalled that Winterberger had come to his office "well recommended," but couldn't remember who had recommended him.

No one who knows Jerry Ford believes he would allow his name to be used by an influence-peddling ring. But in the back-slapping, back-scratching, favor-swapping environment on Capitol Hill, it is easy for a con man to take advantage of a congressman's potent name.

Note: Federal authorities told this column that Winterberger had been "moderately helpful" in building the case against Voloshen and Sweig.

Unlikely Rembrandt

Secretary of Commerce Maurice Stans, hotshot big game hunter and investment banker, is now trying to become the Rembrandt of the Nixon Cabinet.

To the distress of artists at the Commerce Department, he has personally redesigned all of the department's publications.

For years, Commerce's art work had all the flair of a second mortgage. Then in the Kennedy years, outside consultants were brought in.

With their encouragement, Commerce's own artists began turning out books and pamphlets from the weather, census, and other prosaic bureaus that often have the smart dash of fine magazine covers.

Recently, however, Stans sat down with some sheets of yellow foolscap and decided to improve upon his trained artists, so that everyone would know the publications came from Commerce.

Everyone will. The artists dutifully laid out about 20 variations of Stans' basic hum-drum scheme, and Stans, with a keen eye for the ordinary, has selected one of them. With its dull verticals and horizontals, it reflects his accounting background but not much artistic talent.

Nevertheless, the secretary in an internal memorandum decreed that his "format applies to all printed materials,"

thus confining his artists to his rigid decor.

Astronauts Glum

The cutbacks in the space program have caused a serious morale problem among astronauts. Because of the expected budget cuts, no more manned flights are scheduled after 1974.

This means there are now more astronauts than can possibly be crowded into the available spaceships. And astronauts, who have gone through intense training, are worried that they may never get a chance to fly in space.

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Correction

Through an error, Sen. Mark Hatfield of Oregon was referred to in a sentence of Monday's Jack Anderson column when the correct reference should have been to Don Burden, a radio station owner. The sentence should have read:

She (a witness at a congressional hearing) said Burden once instructed her to send him (Burden), \$10,000 in Portland.

QNR 005 BT PLAIN

4:10 PM URGENT 10-19-73 LKS

TO DIRECTOR

FROM BUTTE (161-344) (RUC) 1P

GERALD R. FORD, SPI, OO: BUREAU.

RE ST. LOUIS NITEL TO BUREAU, 10/16/73; REPORT OF SA
[REDACTED] BUTTE, 10/17/73; AND DETROIT TEL TO
DIRECTOR, 10/19/73.

RENITEL VERIFIED FORD'S EMPLOYMENT, YELLOWSTONE
NATIONAL PARK.

CREDIT AND CRIMINAL SUBMITTED IN REREP.

SPIN.

END.

DLM FBI HQ DLXXX CLR

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-21-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

VALLEY DE PLAIN

11:35 AM URGENT 10-10-73 HMB

TO DIRECTOR

WASHINGTON FIELD

BUTTE

FROM DETROIT (151-1353) 2P

GERALD R. FORD, SPIN, BUDED PAST.

INVESTIGATION OF FORD BEING CONDUCTED IN LIGHT OF HIS
APPOINTMENT TO FILL THE POST OF VICE PRESIDENT OF THE U.S.

MR. RICHARD FORD, BROTHER OF APPOINTEE, INTERVIEWED
10/10/73 AND ADVISED THAT APPOINTEE WAS EMPLOYED AT YELLOW-
STONE NATIONAL PARK, WYOMING, AS PARK RANGER DURING SUMMER MONTHS
WHILE ATTENDING YALE UNIVERSITY. MR. FORD STATED THAT THIS EM-
PLOYMENT WOULD HAVE BEEN DURING THE PERIOD OF TIME BETWEEN
1935-1941, EXACT DATES NOT RECALLED.

LEADS, BUTTE, AT YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, WYOMING,
WILL CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION TO VERIFY EMPLOYMENT.
BUTTE ALSO CONDUCT CREDIT AND CRIMINAL CHECKS AT APPROPRIATE
AGENCIES IN AREA OF YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK.

WASHINGTON FIELD, AT WASHINGTON, D.C., CONDUCT AP-
PROPRIATE INVESTIGATION, DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, TO VERIFY
END PAGE ONE

DE 161-1355

PAGE TWO

EMPLOYMENT AS PARK RANGER, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OF BUTTE, INVESTIGATION IN THIS MATTER MUST BE HANDLED EXPEDITIOUSLY AND RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION FURNISHED TO BUREAU BY REPORT IN SIX COPIES AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME.

BUREAU HAS ADVISED THAT REPORTS IN THIS CASE ARE BEING DISSEMINATED AND IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THEY BE LETTER PERFECT AND CLEAR, AND THAT ALL INFORMATION IS FULLY DEVELOPED AND REPORTED.

END

CCJ FBIHQ CLR

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SPRINGFIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 10/19/73	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10/18/73
TITLE OF CASE GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, aka		REPORT MADE BY SA [REDACTED]	TYPED BY slc
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 02-21-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls		CHARACTER OF CASE SPIN; EXT. SITE INVESTIGATION	

b6
b7cREFERENCES:

Detroit teletype 10/18/73.
 Springfield nitel 10/18/73.
 Detroit telephone call of SA [REDACTED] to Springfield 10/18/73.

- RUC -

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACCOUNT TIPS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
							PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED COPIES MADE: <i>34/601</i>						SPECIAL AGENT CHARGE	
1 - Bureau 1 - Springfield (151-666) <i>5 copies made at 9:10 AM 10/20/73</i> <i>1 copy made at 10:15 AM 10/20/73</i>						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
Agency <i>161-111-3</i> Request Recd. <i>10/21/73</i> Date Recd. <i>10/21/73</i> Approved <i>[Signature]</i>						Notations <i>[Signature]</i>	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-21-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

Copy to:

Report of: SA [REDACTED]
Date: October 19, 1973

Office: SPRINGFIELD

Field Office File #: SI 161-666

Bureau File #:

Title: GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY; EXPEDITE INVESTIGATION

Synopsis: [REDACTED] Lincoln, Illinois, interviewed 10/18/73. [REDACTED] advised she worked as a volunteer summer worker in the Congressional Office of GERALD FORD from 6/63 to 8/63. [REDACTED] advised that she and others in FORD's office considered him to be a person of superior character who held the respect of all. [REDACTED] stated she had no question of FORD's loyalty. She further advised, however, that she was not in a position to be fully aware of FORD's activities and professional capabilities.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

[REDACTED] Lincoln, Illinois, was interviewed at her residence on October 18, 1973. [REDACTED] advised that she worked as a volunteer summer worker in the Congressional Office of GERALD FORD from June, 1963 to August, 1963. During this time she had daily contact with FORD but she stated that this contact was limited to only a few minutes each day. She was acquainted with him only on a professional basis although FORD was a personal friend of her father's. [REDACTED] advised that she and her fellow-workers in FORD's office considered him to be a person of superior character who held the respect of all.

SI 161-966

[redacted] stated that FORD's associates were people of "incredible integrity and honesty". [redacted] stated that she had no question of FORD's loyalty. [redacted] further stated, however, that she was not in a position to be fully aware of FORD's activities and professional capabilities.

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b7c

10/10/73

[redacted], SA GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, aka

SI

[redacted], Lincoln,
iii. interviewed 10/18/73. [redacted] advised she worked as volunteer summer worker in Congressional Office of GERALD FORD from 6/63 to 8/63. [redacted] advised she & others in FORD's office considered him person of superior character who held respect of all. [redacted] stated she had no question of FORD's loyalty. She further advised, however, that she was not in position to be fully aware of FORD's activities and professional capabilities. RUC.

147
(10/10/73)

☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1972-454-655

FD-448 (10-29-71)

Transmit Attached by Facsimile - PLAINTEXT

Priority ROUTED

To: DIRECTOR

Date: 10/19/73

From: SAC PH

Time Transmitted -

Subject: GERALD ROBERT PH FORD

Received -

- ☐ Fingerprint Photo ☐ Fingerprint Record ☐ Map ☐ Newspaper clipping ☐ Photograph
- ☐ Artists Conception ☒ Other Letter to SA ☐ 11/19/73
- ☐ (6 min) ☐ (14 min)

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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Cleveland *WC*

DATE: 10/19/73

FROM : C. J. Coleman *CEC*SUBJECT: GERALD RUDOLPH FORD
SPECIAL INQUIRY

Assoc. Dir. ☒
Asst. Dir.:
Admin. ☐
Comp. Syst. ☐
Ext. Affairs ☐
Files & Com. ☐
Gen. Inv. ☐
Ident. ☐
Inspection ☐
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Laboratory ☐
Plan. & Eval. ☐
Spec. Inv. ☒
Training ☒
Legal Coun. ☒
Telephone Rm. ☐
Director Sec'y ☐

In Jack Anderson's column this morning (10/19/73) (attached), he states it will be interesting to see whether the FBI tells the senators about the incident in 1968 when the FBI inadvertently eavesdropped on a telephone call that AVCO Official Earl (Red) Black made to Ford. Anderson continues that Black was seeking Ford's intervention to block an investigation of AVCO's handling of an Army contract at its Crosley plant. Anderson quotes from part of the logs obtained during the investigation of Fred B. Black, Jr., a lobbyist.

In two previous columns on 12/23/67 and 4/16/71 (attached), Anderson also reported similar information in more detail from a microphone surveillance in the Sheraton-Carlton Hotel room of Black in April, 1968. The information reported by Anderson was in a Washington Field airtel 4/30/73 reporting conversations in Black's log. This airtel was part of our files furnished to the Department, the court, and defense attorneys during the 1967 trial of Black.

In our current report on Gerald Ford, we have included copies of Anderson's 1967 and 1971 columns and in the report a statement is made that at the request of the Department, we will conduct an investigation involving AVCO Corporation in 1968 based on allegations that two individuals may have received payments for having influenced the awarding of a defense contract to AVCO. The Department advised at the completion of the investigation there was no basis for prosecution. Congressman Ford was not involved or mentioned during the AVCO investigation.

Enc. (4)

REC-36

- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Cleveland
- 1 - Mr. Coleman
- 1 - Mr. Bruggeman

CONTINUED - OVER

WJ:pic *[Signature]*
(3)

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Memorandum to Mr. Cleveland
Re: Gerald Arthur Ford

We have not included in our report a verbatim transcript of the log from the microphone surveillance. Where logs do indicate a call from an individual identifying himself as Blake (phonetic) who may be identical with Earl Blake, an AVCO official and former football coach, to Congressman Ford. The logs contain other references to a "Jerry" but do not contain a direct statement indicating a request for Congressman Ford's intervention in the AVCO investigation. Our files do not show any investigation of Ford to determine if he did intervene in the AVCO investigation although the AVCO case was under investigation in Washington and Cincinnati in April, 1963. A copy of the Washington Field airtel of 4/30/73 is attached and pertinent references to "Jerry" are indicated on pages 1, 4, 5, and 6. *attached to 4/30/73 airtel*

Although the fact that we had a microphone surveillance on Fred Blake has appeared in the public press on numerous occasions, the contents of our logs in the case have not been made public other than being furnished to the court, defense attorneys, and the Department, and, of course, their appearance in Anderson's column. Inquiry was made as to how Anderson came into possession of our airtel summarizing the logs, and it is believed he received the information through copies furnished to the defense attorneys. The logs do not prove or disprove that Ford intervened in the AVCO case, and as previously stated, we conducted no investigation to determine if he did. We have stated in our report that during the AVCO case, his name was not mentioned. It is therefore felt that we have reported sufficiently in this matter.

ACTION:

For information.

RLB *W* *W/C* *DA*

Thief Heeds Plea to Return Papers

By Jack Anderson

In response to our appeal, documents of "incalculable value" stolen from the Library of Congress have been mailed secretly to us in five anonymous manila packages.

A light-fingered scholar made off with hundreds of pages of irreplaceable diaries, memos, letters and notes from the collection of the late Justice Felix Frankfurter. It was perhaps the most serious robbery in the Library's 173-year existence.

The thief stole with meticulous discrimination, carefully selecting items of huge autograph value and others of historical importance. Among the purloined items were personal letters to Frankfurter from President Lyndon Johnson and Chief Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, records of conversations with Justice Louis Brandeis and intimate recollections on President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Secretary of State Dean Acheson and West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer.

We learned about the theft in September and published an appeal to the master-thief's sense of history. The intelligence and taste with which he stole convinced us he could be persuaded to share at least copies of the Frankfurter documents with history. If he would get the documents to us, we promised to return them to the Library, protect his identity and request Attorney General Elliot Richardson to call off the FBI's nationwide manhunt for him.

A few days ago, five brown manila envelopes arrived in the mail. Each contained a huge batch of copies of the remarkable papers. Only the valuable Frankfurter diaries and a few other papers still have not turned up.

For the sake of history, the scholar-thief has taken a considerable risk to copy and return the documents. We, therefore, are keeping our bargain.

A small sampling from the stolen papers gives a hint of their value to historians.

- Eleven months before Pearl Harbor, Frankfurter arranged for then Australian Ambassador Richard Casey to send a "Personal Secret" cable to London for Winston Churchill's eyes only. Although it was a serious breach for a Supreme Court Justice to meddle in foreign affairs, Frankfurter urged Churchill to butter up President Roosevelt as a means of bringing the United States over to the British side in World War II. Churchill immediately took Frankfurter's advice and tailored his famous Jan. 9, 1941, speech to FDR's vanity.

- In intimate letters over the years, Lyndon Johnson and Felix Frankfurter counseled one another on how to take care of their cardiac illnesses. Wrote Johnson to the ailing Frankfurter: "I have been sitting down here on my ranch watching the Pedernales... and cleaning my gun for the quail and deer hunting season... The important thing is to keep yourself in shape... so you can get back to work."

- Brandeis confided in his talks with the young Frankfurter more than 50 years ago that he was worried about "restrictions of freedom of speech." Brandeis also warned with great foresight against an energy crisis. But he also stooped to gossip and backbiting. He complained, for example, that one of his colleagues "bordered on being crazy" and needed "an electrical treatment."

- Frankfurter, while his letters soar with the grandeur of poetry and legal philosophy, was also an unrepentant gossip. Privately, he called the New

York Times' Arthur Krock a "pretentious ass," lobbied to keep his former law clerk, Phil Elman, on the Federal Trade Commission and suggested that his fellow Justices leave the "garish luxuries" of the Supreme Court building and do their law work at home.

The Ford Tapes—The Senate Rules Committee has asked the FBI for a full field report on vice presidential nominee Gerald Ford. It will be interesting to see whether the FBI tells the

senators about the incident in 1963, when the FBI inadvertently eavesdropped on a telephone call that AVCO official Earl (Red) Blaik made to Ford.

Blaik was seeking Ford's intervention to block an investigation of AVCO's handling of an Army contract at its Crosley plant.

The FBI had planted a bug in the hotel suite of lobbyist Fred Black. The hidden device recorded Blaik's end of the conversation with Ford. We have had access to the FBI's classified internal report which referred to the listening device as "informant WF 1441-C."

"Say, Jerry," began Blaik, "I want to cut you in on this one thing. Out at Crosley's yesterday, they had an FBI man."

Responding to a remark from Ford, Blaik said someone "must have made some complaint to the Department of Justice. Wouldn't you think so?... That's what he is trying to do, trying to show that there is some stuff in here other than ordinary."

Ford acknowledged that he had received a number of calls from Blaik on his troubles with the Army contract. Ford explained he and Blaik had been close friends since their coaching days more than 35 years ago. Blaik coached at Dartmouth while Ford was an assistant coach at Yale.

1973 Chronicle Publishing Co.

Mr. Baker _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Cleveland _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Gebhardt _____
Mr. Jenkins _____
Mr. Marshall _____
Mr. Miller, E.S. _____
Mr. Soyars _____
Mr. Thompson _____
Mr. Walters _____
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Mr. Barnes _____
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The Washington Merry-Go-Round

Truth Strained on Hill Shadowing

By Jack Anderson

The redoubtable J. Edgar Hoover was straining the truth a bit when he told Senate GOP leader Hugh Scott this week that no member of Congress has been under FBI surveillance.

Competent sources inside the FBI tell us that G-men have shadowed at least four congressmen. They are:

The late Rep. Vito Marcantonio, American Labor, N.Y.; suspected of Communist ties; ex-Rep. Roland Libonati (D-Ill.) suspected of Mafia connections; Rep. Cornelius Gallagher (D-N.J.) suspected of Mafia associations; Rep. Peter Frelinchussen (R-N.J.) who was kept under FBI surveillance briefly to protect him from a blackmail attempt.

We were unable to confirm and that Ford occasionally had House Democratic leader Hale Boggs' charge that the FBI planes has tapped congressional phones. But we have established that several members of Congress, including Boggs, Thomas's Rep. Carl Albert and have been investigated by the FBI as the result of electronic eavesdropping.

Boggs was one of several legislators whose names were picked up on wiretaps during the FBI's investigation of fixer Nathan Voloshen and ex-House aide Martin Swain. The FBI subsequently checked into Boggs' role in helping Voloshen and Rep. Carl Albert, timore contractor Victor Albert is now House Frenkil get the contract for Speaker and works closely constructing a House garage. With Boggs.

House GOP leader Gerald Ford, who leaped to the House floor to defend Hoover, from Boggs' charges, has been caught up himself in more than one FBI investigation.

Ford Checked

In the Voloshen-Sweig case, the FBI learned that a third member of their fixit team, Robert Winterberger, sometimes operated out of Ford's office.

Earlier, the FBI bug in lobbyist Fred Black's hotel suite picked up a telephone conversation between AVCO's Earl (Red) Black and Ford. FBI agents, checking on the monitored conversation, found that Black had enlisted Ford's aid in preventing a probe of an AVCO defense contract.

The FBI also overheard Black made a breakfast date over the telephone with Oklahoma's Rep. Carl Albert and have been investigated by the FBI as the result of electronic eavesdropping.

Afterward, press secretary Ron Zeigler explained that the President was referring to his regular news digests he receives every day. We have now obtained access to some of these digests, which boil down the daily press reports into succinct, easy-to-read capsules. is a news story allotted more relief paragraph.

Listening devices have also been used in the investigations of Libonati, Gallagher and other members of Congress. It would be difficult to prove, however, that wiretaps have actually been installed on congressional phones.

Ex-Sen. Edward Long (D-Mo.), who conducted a Senate investigation of eavesdropping, told us that his electronic experts had made a sweep of Senate corridors and had picked up a strong indication that the offices of ex-Senators Ralph Yarborough (D-Tex.) and Maurine Neuberger (D-Ore.) were bugged. A later thorough search of their offices, however, failed to uncover the listening devices.

Nixon's Summaries

President Nixon charged in his TV talk with Howard K. Smith that the media had given a distorted picture of the Laos invasion. His view was based, the President said, upon a two-week summary of newspaper and television coverage.

Afterward, press secretary Ron Zeigler explained that the President was referring to his regular news digests he receives every day. We have now obtained access to some of these digests, which boil down the daily press reports into succinct, easy-to-read capsules. is a news story allotted more relief paragraph.

The Washington Merry-Go-Round
April 14, 1971

The press coverage of the Laos invasion usually was summarized in one of two typewritten pages of short items. White House aide Pat Buchanan, who prepares the digests, selects both favorable and critical stories to compress for presidential reading.

The digest for March 23, 1971, for example, began with this item: "The U.S. command indicated the two-day air strikes on NVN were highly successful saying pilots destroyed three missile sites, touching off 100 explosions."

The next item reported: U.S. crews manning the fleet of 600 helicopters which supported SVN's Laos offensive began withdrawing from Khe Sanh as the campaign neared its end. Final units in the Saigon task force retreated under heavy Communist fire.

Next: "U.S. helicopter gunships battling in Laos proved for the first time they are more than a match for hostile tanks, said an army officer just back from the war zone. Even more important, said Lt. Col. Robert Molinelli, U.S. helicopter pilots over Laos met 'the heaviest antiaircraft fire we have ever encountered' and proved they could survive it."

The daily digest devoted more space, in fact, to the coverage of Mr. Nixon's TV appearance with Smith than to the coverage of the Laos fighting.

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The Washington Post: Henry-Alexander

THE WASHINGTON POST Thursday, Dec. 24, 1997

F11

'Bugging' Data Links GOP Bigwig

By Drew Pearson
and Jack Anderson

The famous FBI bug in Fred Black's Sheraton-Canton Hotel suite, which started the national uproar over eavesdropping, picked up some startling conversations involving House GOP leader Gerald Ford.

The wiretapping, which had to be authorized by Attorney General Bobby Kennedy, appeared to be aimed in part at spying on Vice President Johnson's controversial political friends. It was known at the time that no love was lost between the Vice President and the late President's brother.

However, the FBI's efficient electronic devices also picked up conversations involving Republicans. Especially interesting is revelation of the manner in which defense contracts became involved in politics.

On April 29, 1969, two AVCO Corporation executives, unaware that their every word was being taped by the FBI, discussed freely how Rep. Ford of Michigan had intervened to help spare them from a Federal investigation.

The Army had awarded AVCO two negotiated contracts to produce transistor radios for tanks, jeeps and other military vehicles. This aroused then-Congressman Earl Wilson (R-Ill.) who Black, "why they had Campbell raised some sticky questions about the Army's failure to seek competitive bids.

When Government auditors began poking into the matter, AVCO's President James Kerr and executive committee chairman Earl "Red" Black hurried to Washington to see what could be done about sidetracking the investigation. Unhappily for them, they stopped by the suite of their Washington representative, Fred Black, to discuss strategy.

What the FBI heard is still supposed to be kept under wraps. The listening device was so secret that the FBI's own internal reports, though highly classified, referred to it only as "Informant WT 1441-C (asterisk)."

Wire-Pulling, 'Bugging'

However, we believe the public is entitled to know about the wire-pulling and wiretapping that goes on in Washington.

In this case, Black reported to Kerr on his visit that intruding with "Jerry," whom the FBI identified as Rep. Ford. Black said Jerry had not only discussed the contract trouble with Wilson but had arranged with House Appropriations Chairman George Mahon, (D-Tex.) to question Comptroller General Joseph Campbell yesterday about his investigation.

"So yesterday afternoon in their meeting, their appropriations meeting," related Black, "why they had Campbell held in. So they threw it up to Campbell. They wanted to know why he had men over

there, and he said he didn't, so they said they found out what he was telling was not correct, although it was partially correct."

It's interesting that Comptroller General Campbell is charged by Congress to investigate the Executive Branch of Government for Congress, yet in this case Congressmen were trying to sidetrack the investigation.

"So he (Campbell) said that Wilson had asked him to look into two cases," Black continued, not knowing every word was being recorded by the FBI. "Jerry was trying to find out what the two cases were. He finally got the dope. He said he was investigating for Wilson an Admiral contract and a Bendix contract, and AVCO was not in on it."

Meanwhile, however, an FBI agent called at AVCO's Crosley plant in Cincinnati. Back in Black's suite the following day, Black phoned Rep. Ford to report this latest development. The FBI bug picked up only Black's end of the conversation.

"Say, Jerry," began Black, "I want to cut you in on this one thing. Out at Crosley's yesterday, they had an FBI man."

He responded to some remarks from Rep. Ford, then said: "Um! Um! Well, he must have made some complaint to the Department of Justice, wouldn't you think so? . . . That's what he is trying

to do, try to show that there is some stuff in here other than ordinary. . . . He was investigating certain aspects of the VRC-12 (Army terminology for the vehicular radio.)"

Kerr, at Black's side, said: "I'll send him a transcript of the interview."

An indignant Earl Black denied to us that he had ever held any such discussion with Ford.

"I don't think there is anything to all that," he snorted. "I did not talk to Ford. I have no memory of this at all."

However, Ford acknowledged receiving a number of calls from Black on the VRC-12 contract. As Ford recalled, AVCO had developed the radios for the Army, therefore had felt entitled to the production contracts without bidding.

Wilson, reached at his home in Bedford, Ind., said that AVCO had been paid by the Army to develop the radios, then had received the first two multi-million-dollar contracts without competition. The FBI had found some "improprieties," said Wilson, but nothing serious enough to warrant prosecution.

We asked Ford why he would intervene for AVCO, which has no plants in his home state of Michigan. The House Republican Leader explained that he and Black have been close friends since childhood, more than 30 years ago.

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The Attorney General
Director, FBI

1 - Mr. Callahan
1 - Mr. Franck
1 - Mr. Bowers
1 - Mr. Cleveland
1 - Mr. Coleman
1 - Mr. Young
1 - Mr. Auerswald

October 19, 1973

GERALD RUDOLPH FORD
VICE PRESIDENT DESIGNATE
SPECIAL INQUIRY

In accordance with a request received from the Deputy Attorney General on October 15, 1973, an investigation has been conducted concerning Gerald Rudolph Ford, United States Representative from Michigan. In requesting the investigation the Deputy Attorney General advised that The White House desired the investigation.

Transmitted herewith are the results of the investigation of Representative Ford which has been conducted to date. The results of this investigation are also being furnished to General Alexander M. Haig, Jr., at the White House. Two extra copies of the results are being furnished to you in the event The White House desires that they be furnished to the appropriate Congressional Committees.

Summarizing generally, so far over 450 persons from all walks of life have been interviewed concerning Representative Ford. Investigation thus far is generally favorable. Some prominent labor union officials have indicated they are not impressed with Representative Ford's voting record in Congress with respect to matters concerning labor, welfare, and civil rights and some were opposed to his nomination to the Vice Presidency for those reasons.

Robert C. Byrd, United States Senator from West Virginia, has advised that he does not desire to comment concerning Representative Ford at this time.

In the past, Jack Anderson, the Washington columnist, has criticized Representative Ford in his column, alleging Representative Ford intervened on behalf of the AVCO Corporation

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MAIL ROOM ☒

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The Attorney General

During an investigation of alleged improper activities of that corporation. In 1963, at the request of the Department of Justice, the FBI conducted a limited investigation of allegations that two Government officials may have received payments for having a contract for sound equipment awarded to the AVCO Corporation. Representative Ford's name never came up during that investigation. The results of that investigation were furnished to the Department of Justice which determined that there was no basis for criminal action.

In July, 1973, numerous articles in the press indicated that Representative Ford freely admitted that he helped G. Gordon Liddy, the Watergate figure, obtain his first job in Washington in 1969. According to the press, Representative Ford stated that Mr. Liddy was one of many persons he tried to help get jobs and through his efforts, Mr. Liddy obtained a job with the Department of the Treasury.

Some Democratic Party officials in Michigan, such as Hubert Holley, Chairman of the First Congressional Democratic District of Detroit; Sander M. Levin, former Michigan Democratic State Chairman; and Bruce Miller, Chairman, Democratic Party for Wayne County, Michigan, would not recommend Representative Ford for various reasons such as he is a Republican, they do not feel he is qualified, or he has voted against legislation favoring labor.

George C. Edwards, Jr., Judge, United States Court of Appeals, 6th Circuit, advised that he has known Representative Ford on a first-name basis for the past fifteen years and believes him to be a very conscientious and conservative Congressman. He stated, however, he could not recommend Representative Ford for the office of Vice President as he does not feel Representative Ford has the intellectual capacity to deal with the office.

Myra Wolfgang, Vice President, Hotel and Restaurant Workers and Bartenders International Union, Detroit, Michigan, stated she is opposed to Representative Ford's appointment for strictly political reasons as she feels he is ultraconservative in his voting record regarding labor.

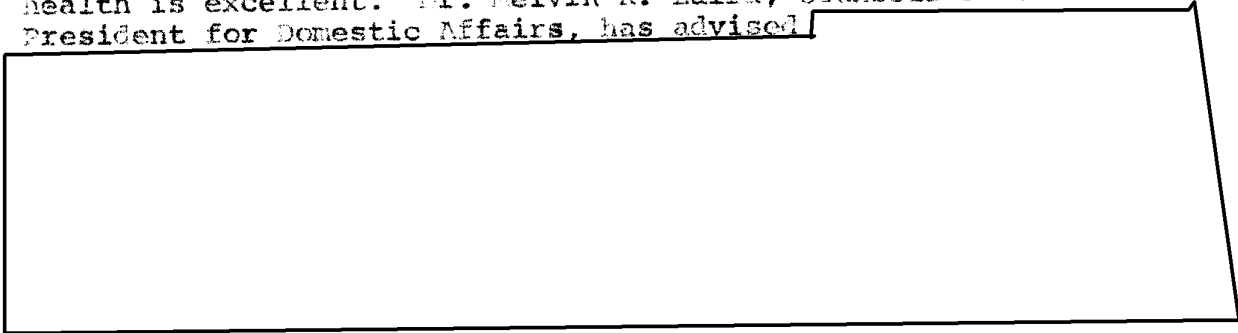
The Attorney General

Racial leaders were generally favorable in their comments concerning Representative Ford and voiced no specific objection to his nomination. Others were also generally favorable in their comments but some indicated objection to him based on political differences, their opinions as to his ability, and his voting record in Congress.

Representative Ford's fellow Congressmen, including the Michigan Delegation, were generally favorable in their comments concerning him. Representative John D. Dingell of Michigan said he is not yet certain whether he will vote to confirm Representative Ford because of political differences relating to President Nixon's refusal to make available recordings and tapes sought by the Senate Watergate Committee and by Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox.

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b7c

Investigation indicates that Representative Ford's health is excellent. Mr. Melvin R. Laird, Counsellor to the President for Domestic Affairs, has advised



One Robert Winter-Berger, a former Washington lobbyist, in a book entitled "The Washington Pay-Off" published in 1972, alleged that Representative Ford had been the patient of a New York psychotherapist in the past. Representative Ford has publicly denied this statement and we have interviewed the psychotherapist who states this is a lie and Representative Ford has never been a patient of his.

Ernest Hazey, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Detroit, Michigan, says he does not know Representative Ford but considers him "a terrible choice" for Vice President as he

The Attorney General

believes him to be an "anticivil libertarian" since he supports the President's position on wire tapping. Mr. Mazey stated the ACLU would take issue with Representative Ford's appointment before the appropriate Congressional Committees.

Representative Ford was a member of the Warren Commission investigating the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and was the author, with a ghost writer, of a book entitled "Portrait of the Assassin." Former Chief Justice Earl Warren has advised during the current inquiry that it was agreed among members of the Commission that the final report of the Commission would be the only publication made of the inquiry. He stated he was shocked when he heard of the book attributed to Representative Ford. Justice Warren pointed out that he would allow this statement to stand on its own and allow the reader to determine the propriety of Representative Ford's action.

Representative Ford is a member of the University Club in Grand Rapids, Michigan, which is an exclusive social club whose membership includes business and professional people in the Grand Rapids area. Although there are no restrictions regarding membership in the club, there are no nonwhite members. A representative of the club stated there is no racial discrimination practiced by the club. Representative Ford is also a member of the Peninsular Club in Grand Rapids, which is a "gentlemen's club" for social and business purposes. A representative of the club stated there is no discrimination practiced against anyone and there is currently one nonwhite member of that club.

[REDACTED]

b3

The foregoing should not be considered a complete summary of results of investigation of Representative Ford to date but is set forth to give you a general idea of the results of our investigation. Investigation is continuing, the results of which will be furnished to you as quickly as possible.

Enclosures (12)

October 19, 1973

BY LIAISON

General Alexander M. Haig, Jr.
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Haig:

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TO DIRECTOR

HONOLULU (VIA WASHINGTON)

FROM LOS ANGELES (161-2471) (P) 1P

GERALD RUDOLPH FORD AKA GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, JR.,
LESLIE KING, JR., SPECIAL INQUIRY, BUDED PAST.

RE SAN DIEGO TELETYPE TO HONOLULU 10-20-73.

BUREAU ADVISES THAT HONOLULU SHOULD BE AWARE
THAT INVESTIGATION IS BEING CONDUCTED AT REQUEST OF WHITE
HOUSE. INTERVIEW OF BAMBI WEIL SHOULD BE CONDUCTED ON
INSTANT DATE AND RESULTS OF INTERVIEW IMMEDIATELY SENT
TO FBI, HEADQUARTERS VIA FACSIMILEY.

HONOLULU SHOULD CONTACT LOS ANGELES FOR ANY
ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND INFO NECESSARY TO INTERVIEW OF
.

END

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MAH FBIHQ ACK FOR ONE

R RELAY

TELETYPE TO:

1/10

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161-7872

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Transmitted attached by Facsimile - PLAINTEXT

Priority URGENT

To: DIRECTOR, FBI (161-9896)

Date: 10/20/73

From: SAC, LOS ANGELES (161-2471)

Time Transmitted - 5:00 PM

Subject: GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, aka
Gerald Rudolph Ford, Jr.
Leslie King Jr.
SPI

Received -

FBI 1246

☐ Fingerprint Photo☐ Fingerprint Mount☐ Map☐ Newspaper clipping☐ Photograph☐ Briefing Caption☒ Other

Reports (2)

☒ (2-15)☐ (4 min)

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Approved: *[Signature]*

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DATE 02-22-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

REC-86

FD-205 (Rev. 1-7-72)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE LOS ANGELES	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 10/20/73	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10/19/73 - 10/20/73
TITLE OF CASE CERIAL RUDOLPH FORD aka Cerald Rudolph Ford, Jr. Leslie King, Jr.		REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 15px;"></div>	TYPED BY CJL
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 02-22-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bis		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY	

REFERENCE: Washington Field Office teletype to Los Angeles dated 10/19/73.
San Diego teletype to Los Angeles dated 10/20/73.

- P -

LEADS

LOS ANGELES

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA: Will interview
 and advise Bureau results of interview by
facsimile.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i> COPIES MADE:						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
6 - Bureau (161-9896) 1 - Los Angeles (161-2471) <i>1 Copy to [unclear]</i>						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations	
Agency	1 W. [unclear] 3 [unclear]						
Request Recd.							
Date Fwd.	10-23-73						
How Fwd.	[unclear]						
By	[unclear]						

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-22-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

Copy to:

Report of:

[REDACTED]

Office: Los Angeles, California

Date:

10-20-73

Field Office File #:

161-2471

Bureau File #:

Title:

GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

Character:

SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

Interview of [REDACTED] and other individuals allegedly involved in business venture with appointee set out. All individuals advised no business venture was established. None of them ever met appointee and they could furnish no specific information concerning appointee.

- P -

DETAILSMISCELLANEOUS

It is noted that on October 19, 1973, [REDACTED] [REDACTED], New York Times, furnished information to the Washington Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation which he received from San Diego businessman, [REDACTED] that CARL ALBERT, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Representative FORD, had made an official trip to Red China in 1972. [REDACTED] stated that upon returning to the United States, the appointee apparently had contacted [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] regarding the establishment of a corporation to import food products from Red China and develop the exclusive

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distributorship within the United States. According to [] the appointee was to be a "silent partner" in this venture.

INTERVIEWS OF []
[]

On October 19, 1973, []

[], Los Angeles, California, advised SA [] that he recalls approximately one year ago, he was telephonically contacted by [] California, and asked if he would be interested in a deal to make a lot of money through exclusive rights of imports of all products from Red China to the United States. [] stated that he had indicated to [] that he would be interested in such an undertaking, and a meeting was subsequently held between [] and a fourth individual, who was connected in some capacity with the [] California, but whose name [] could not recall. At this meeting, [] and [] were shown a list of the type of products that could be brought in from Red China. The list included bicycles, furs, frozen sea food, jade or diamonds and numerous other items. [] said he and [] were to select the products in which they were interested, and attempt to establish good outlets, and locate markets for these products. They were to form a business type corporation for this venture.

[] advised that from the initial meeting, he never took the above matter seriously. He stated the individual associated with the [] [] was supposed to have contact with people in high places and be able to arrange for the exclusive right to

LA 161-2471

import the products. [] stated he believes the name of the appointee came up at the meeting, but he is not sure in what capacity, and is not certain the appointee's name was mentioned at all. [] could furnish no specifics regarding the appointee, and stated he had no contact with the appointee concerning the above proposed venture. He advised that he has never met the appointee.

[] stated that after the above meeting had been held, he received possibly two telephone calls from [] in which [] made inquiry as to what action he, [], had taken concerning the above venture. [] said he advised [] he had taken no action and that it was obvious to him from his conversation with [] that [] had likewise done nothing regarding the proposed venture. [] stated that a company or corporation was never formed, and the above matter was dropped. He said that no mention was ever made as to who would be the principals or partners in the above venture.

[] additionally advised that after his meeting with [], he had gone to Hawaii and while there, had discussed the above venture with [] who is []. He said that [] is now living in San Diego, California. A business venture between [] and the appointee, was never formed. [] reiterated he has never met the appointee and could furnish nothing specific regarding the appointee.

[] further stated that approximately two weeks ago, on October 6, 1973, he received a telephone call from [] at which time [] asked him if the appointee had been a person involved in the proposal concerning imports from Red China, and he told [] at that time no business venture had been formed, and the matter had been dropped.

[] also said that on October 15, 1973, or October 16, 1973, he received a telephone call from an individual who identified himself as a newspaper correspondent by the name of [] and [] had made inquiry

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concerning the above matter. [] stated he had given no information to [].

On October 19, 1973, [], Los Angeles, California, advised SA [], he had attended a meeting here in January or February, 1973, in which [] and a person, whom he believed to be the [] of the [] in San Pedro, California, were present. [] stated that at this time, [] had proposed what he, [] considered to be a "screwball" idea to import products from Red China. He said that [] had furnished a list of products which they might have an exclusive right to import from Red China. [] understood that the individual from the [] had contact with "some guy in Washington" who was tied in with a group who had great influence and political pull. He said the list of products that could be imported included bicycles, jade, fur, food products and other items. He recalled the name of the appointee had been mentioned at the above meeting and also the name of a newspaper editor in Washington, D. C. He could not recall the editor's name or the name of the paper. [] did not recall why the appointee's name was mentioned.

[] furnished essentially the same information that had been furnished by []. He said that he never took the above matter seriously, but that [], which is managed by [] is one of his and [] large accounts, and the [] was a potential large account. [] stated that for this reason he and [] listened to []. [] recalled that on one occasion subsequent to the above meeting [] had telephonically contacted him concerning another matter, and had asked him if he had taken any action concerning the possible importation of the goods from Red China. [] said he advised [] that he had done nothing in this regard, and that it was also

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very obvious to him that [] had done nothing in regards to the matter.

On October 19, 1973, []

[] California, advised SA [] that approximately one year ago, he had been approached by [] concerning the possibility of the right to exclusive importation of food products and other items from Red China. [] stated, as [] he is naturally interested in ways to increase profits, and from his discussion with [] he obtained the impression that lobster tails might be imported from Red China at a cost of half what he normally would pay for them.

[] advised that [] had a list of various products that could be imported from Red China. He said the list was mimeographed on a piece of paper, and at the top of the paper was a telephone number in Beverly Hills, California, that could be called concerning importation of various products. He said the piece of paper was not impressive in appearance and was unprofessional looking and he did not take the matter very seriously. [] added he is always interested in ways of making money for [] and if there was a possibility of importing lobster at a greatly reduced cost, he desired to take advantage of this. [] stated that [] and if the lobster could have been imported, it would have required considerable financing. [] said that he approached [] concerning the above matter and a meeting was set up at which [] and [] were in attendance. At this meeting they discussed ways to set up a business, and to act as outlets for the products to be imported from Red China. [] stated that no action was taken on the matter after the initial meeting and no business venture was undertaken. [] stated the matter "just died" and he has given it no additional thought.

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[] further advised the names of prominent figures in the United States had been mentioned in connection with the exclusive right to import products from Red China, and he believes this was done to impress people with the idea. He said the name of the appointee had been mentioned as a "foster father" of the idea, but in his opinion, there is "no way" the appointee could have been involved in the matter. He said the above proposal had occurred after the appointee had been to Red China, and therefore, use of his name would lend credence to the possibility of the undertaking.

[] reiterated he never took the above matter seriously, and that nothing ever came of it. He stated he has never met the appointee, and could furnish no specific information concerning the appointee. *repeated*

On October 19, 1973, []

[] Los Angeles, California, advised SA [] he is the former [] for the [] California.

[] said that approximately one year ago his attorney had advised him there "maybe a way to get products out of Red China". He said the attorney had obtained this information from one of his clients, whose name [] could not recall at the present time.

[] stated that in connection with the restaurant business of the [], he was particularly interested in obtaining shipments of crab and shrimp. He was also interested in establishing shops for the marketing of other products that might be imported into the United States.

[] said that he held a meeting with the individual who was to set up the importing of the products from Red China. He said that in his opinion, there was "nothing shady and nothing illegal" about the matter.

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[] stated that he was told if he would furnish specifications of the products that he desired, they could be produced in China at a low cost for importation into the United States. [] said that at the above meeting, he asked for bids of shrimp and crabs to be purchased by [] and after a 30 day period he received no bids and no other action was taken.

[] said that it is his opinion that the only possible interest which the appointee could have had in the above matter, would have been the interest of seeing that ~~the~~ trade was established with Red China. He stated that if the appointee's name was being used in connection with the above operation, it was probably being used illegally since he, [], had received no action on the bid request for the shrimp and crab.

[] recalled one meeting he had attended with [] and two other individuals concerning the establishment of outlets for goods to be imported from Red China and he said nothing came from this.

[] advised he has never met the appointee, and he could furnish nothing specific regarding him.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

TO

TO: FBI PLAIN

4:14 PM SET URGENT 12/23/73 BLA

TO: DIRECTOR

LOS ANGELES (151-2471) ---VIA FBIR---

SAN DIEGO (151-324) ---VIA FBIR---

FROM HONOLULU (151-334) (RUC) 1P

GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, AKA GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, JR., LESLIE
KING, JR. SPECIAL INQUIRY. BUDED PAST.

RE SAN DIEGO TELETYPE TO LOS ANGELES AND HONOLULU 12/23/73
AND LOS ANGELES TELETYPE TO BUREAU AND HONOLULU 12/23/73.

[REDACTED]
HONOLULU, HAWAII, ADVISED 12/23/73 SHE DID NOT BELIEVE SHE WAS
ACTUALLY PRESENT DURING A CONVERSATION BETWEEN [REDACTED]
AND [REDACTED] IN HONOLULU AT WHICH TIME [REDACTED]
ALLEGED THAT FORD WHILE IN RED CHINA HAD MADE A PRIVATE DEAL WITH
THE CHINESE TO SELL CHINESE PRODUCTS IN THE U. S. SHE RECALLED THAT
JAIL DID HAVE A CONVERSATION WITH [REDACTED] DURING WHICH [REDACTED]
MENTIONED THE FOREGOING BUSINESS DEAL BUT BELIEVES SHE WAS NOT PRESENT
AND JAIL HAD LATER SIMPLY SUMMARIZED THE CONVERSATION FOR HER.
SHE COULD FURNISH NO SPECIFICS CONCERNING THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN
ROSENTHAL AND JAIL.

REC-86

HONOLULU HAS NO FACSIMILE CAPABILITY.

END

LEF FBIR P. 12-23-73

PLAT

LA, SD

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE SAN DIEGO	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 10/19/73	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10/19/73
TITLE OF CASE GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, aka Gerald Rudolph Ford, Jr., Leslie King, Jr.		REPORT MADE BY SA FRANCIS J. SCHMIDT	TYPED BY sp
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 02-22-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY	

REFERENCE: Washington Field Office telephone call to San Diego dated 10/19/73.

- RUC -

- 1 -
COVER PAGE

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	COURT TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>					SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		
COPIES MADE: 6 - Bureau (AMSD) 1 - San Diego (161-624) <i>[Handwritten notes]</i>					DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW REC-86 <i>[Handwritten notes]</i>		
Dissemination Record of Attached Report					Notations		
Agency	100-337-1000						
Report Recd.	10/24/73						

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-22-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

Copy to:

Report of: SA FRANCIS J. SCHMIDT
Date: OCTOBER 20, 1973

Office: SAN DIEGO

Field Office File #: 161-624

Bureau File #:

Title: GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

[redacted] La Jolla, California, date of birth [redacted] advised 10-19-73 that [redacted] while visiting him in Hawaii in February of 1973, told him he had fallen into a "great deal" and inquired if [redacted] would be interested. This involved a story that arrangements had been made whereby United States Representative GERALD FORD, who had been in China with United States Representative CARL ALBERT, would have exclusive rights for the sale of Red Chinese products in the United States. [redacted] received the impression that the business arrangements for sale of these items would be handled under a corporate structure where Representative FORD's name would not appear. [redacted] has discussed this matter with [redacted] the "New York Times" in Washington, D.C., and also with [redacted] in [redacted] states he has never met Representative FORD. [redacted] also states no factual knowledge of arrangements. [redacted] offered opinion that the story is true but the arrangements never developed [redacted] willing to testify under oath to information furnished by him.

- RUC -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1.

Date of transcription 10/19/73

[redacted] was contacted at his place of business. [redacted] California. [redacted] was advised by the interviewing agent that the reason for the inquiry was to establish his business relationship, if any, with Representative GERALD FORD, present nominee for the office of the Vice President.

[redacted] stated that he felt this was the reason for the interview when an appointment was requested with him by an Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). [redacted] stated that in approximately February, 1973, to the best of his recollection, he was visited by [redacted], one [redacted] from Los Angeles, California, who was on vacation. He stated that this was about the time that United States Representatives GERALD FORD and CARL ALBERT had visited Red China a short time after the President's trip to Red China. He advised that during this visit at his home, [redacted] told him that he, [redacted] had fallen into a "great deal" in the business sense. [redacted] advised [redacted] that he had been approached by individuals, not named, who apparently stated to him that when Representative FORD went to China with Representative ALBERT, arrangements had been made whereby Representative FORD would have exclusive rights for the sale of Red Chinese products in the United States. [redacted] stated that to the best of his recollection there were approximately 225 items involved on this list of products, but he does not recall if [redacted] showed him this list. He does recall, however, that one of the items on the list was bicycles. [redacted] stated that he has always been sensitive to any type of covert business dealings with politicians and so informed [redacted].

[redacted] stated that regarding the previously mentioned discussion, he had two definite recollections. One - that Representative FORD was involved; and two - that the list of the Red Chinese items contained approximately 225 items. [redacted] further stated he had received the distinct impression that the sale of these items in the United States would be set up under a corporate structure wherein Representative FORD's name would not appear. He also received the impression that friends of [redacted] in the Los Angeles area were involved and had

Interviewed on 10/19/73 at [redacted] File # SD 161-624

by SA FRANCIS J. SCHMIDT;sp Date dictated 10/19/73

2.
SD 161-624

originally approached [redacted]. He stated that he feels his [redacted] is an honest individual. He advised that to the best of his knowledge, [redacted] either had the list of items or presently has it.

[redacted] stated that this conversation occurred in front of [redacted] whose true name is [redacted] but who is better known in Hawaii as [redacted]. He stated that she was and is [redacted]. He said, following this discussion with [redacted], he had discussed the matter with a friend whose name he did not recall who lives in Hawaii, and who was a friend of and knew [redacted] of the "New York Times." He stated that since that time he has mentioned this story to his father and also in all probability has discussed it on an occasion or two at a cocktail party.

[redacted] stated that on the night that he heard of the nomination of Representative FORD for the office of the Vice Presidency, he called the "New York Times" office in Washington, D. C., and attempted to speak to [redacted], who was not there. He stated on the following day, which he believes was last Saturday, he spoke to [redacted] the "New York Times" in Washington, D. C., and told him the story outlined above. [redacted] stated that [redacted] suggested to him that he call [redacted], which he did.

[redacted] advised that when he called [redacted] about this story, [redacted] told him "I've heard nothing more of the deal but I will contact the people who contacted me and let you know." [redacted] stated he has received no further communication from [redacted].

[redacted] stated he then called [redacted] again and advised him that he had contacted [redacted] and of the latter's reaction. He further stated he advised [redacted] he would call [redacted] again concerning this matter, but he has not done so.

[redacted] advised that during the night of October 16 or 17, 1973, he called a friend in Los Angeles by the name of [redacted]

3.
SD 161-624

in Los Angeles. He stated that during this friendly discussion, he mentioned the above story to [REDACTED], at which time the latter asked permission from him, [REDACTED] to give the story to his office in Washington, D. C., where they could follow up the matter with inquiry through their personnel in Red China.

At this time, [REDACTED] voluntarily made the statement that he feels the foregoing story is true but also feels the arrangements for this business venture were never developed.

[REDACTED] stated that he has never met Representative FORD and he has the impression that neither has [REDACTED] ever had contact with Representative FORD. [REDACTED] also mentioned it is possible that [REDACTED] interviewed Representative FORD during the latter's stopover in Hawaii. He stated he could not recall whether this stopover in Hawaii was on Representative FORD's trip to Red China or his return trip.

During this interview, [REDACTED] received a telephone call. After completing this telephone call, he advised that he had just been speaking with [REDACTED] who had called him from Los Angeles and who was initiating his own inquiry into the above story.

[REDACTED] stated that he would be willing to testify to the foregoing under oath before a Congressional Committee.

[REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED], is actually involved in marketing communications work, and he is basically [REDACTED] in this field at the present time. He advised that while he was in Hawaii, he was involved in economic development work as [REDACTED]. He further advised he is presently attending law school at night.

SD 161-624

At Honolulu, Hawaii

[redacted] Honolulu, Hawaii, advised on October 20, 1973, she does not believe she was present during the conversation between [redacted] and [redacted], in Honolulu, Hawaii, at which time [redacted] reportedly furnished information about arrangements having been made whereby Representative FORD would have exclusive rights for the sale of Red Chinese products in the United States. She said she recalls that [redacted] and [redacted] had a conversation during which [redacted] mentioned this matter, but stated she does not believe she was present during their conversation, and believes [redacted] later summarized their conversation for her. She advised she can furnish no specific information concerning this conversation between [redacted] and [redacted].

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE LOS ANGELES	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 10/20/73	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10/20/73
TITLE OF CASE GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, aka Gerald Rudolph Ford, Jr. - Martin Luther King, Jr.		REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 1.2em;"></div>	TYPED BY cgk
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 02-23-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bis		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY	

REFERENCE: Los Angeles report of SA
dated 10/20/73.

- RUC -

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE					DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW		
- Bureau (161-9896) - Los Angeles (161-2471) 1/16/74 H/K					1		
					2		
					3		
					4		
Continuation Record of Attached Report					Notations		
by	1/16/74 3/1/74				<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 100px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> 3/1/74 </div>		
by							
by	1/16/74 3/1/74						
by	1/16/74 3/1/74						

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-25-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

Copy to:

Report of:

Date:

10-20-73

Office: Los Angeles, California

Field Office File #:

161-2471

Bureau File #:

Title:

GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

Character:

SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

[redacted] interviewed. Details set out. He advises [redacted] had picked up rumor that while GERALD FORD was in China last year, he contacted individuals there for importing approximately 200 items into United States.

- RUC -

DETAILSMISCELLANEOUSINTERVIEW OF
[redacted]

On October 20, 1973, [redacted] SA [redacted] Los Angeles, California, advised [redacted] that on October 19, 1973, he had telephonically contacted [redacted] in San Diego, California, and during their conversation [redacted] advised him that agents of the San Diego Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation were then in his office concerning a matter which [redacted] and [redacted] had previously discussed in regard to GERALD FORD. [redacted] said the information he has concerns a "rumor" which [redacted] has picked up that, while in China last year, the appointee had made contacts for importing approximately 200 items into the United States. [redacted] stated that the information furnished by [redacted] would be difficult, if

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not impossible to confirm. He stated that [redacted] has taken no action concerning the information furnished by [redacted] and that he has no additional information to offer. [redacted] said he has no personal knowledge of any improper actions on the part of the appointee, and he is aware of nothing which would reflect unfavorably as to the appointee. He added that when an individual is being considered for any high position, there are many rumors such as this one, and he has no basis to believe the information concerning the appointee is anything other than a rumor.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE DETROIT	OFFICE OF ORIGIN WASHINGTON FIELD	DATE 10/20/73	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10/16/73 - 10/18/73
TITLE OF CASE GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, aka		REPORT MADE BY SA [REDACTED]	TYPED BY dlc
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 02-25-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls		CHARACTER OF CASE SPIN	

- P -

ADMINISTRATIVE:

The following information is being placed on the administrative page due to the highly confidential nature of sources, whose identities if revealed could compromise sensitive investigative matters and prove embarrassing to the Bureau and other organizations involved.

Established sources have advised in the past that F & A Cheese Company, Grand Rapids, Michigan, is connected with individuals known to be involved in organized crime activities, are as follows:

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
							PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i> COPIES MADE: 6 - Bureau 1 - Detroit (161-1355) <i>[Handwritten: 161-1355]</i>						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW <i>[Handwritten: 161-1355]</i>						REC-66	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations	
Agency	<i>[Handwritten: 161-1355]</i>					<i>[Handwritten: 161-1355]</i>	
Request Recd.							
Date Fwd.							
How Fwd.							
By							

COVER PAGE

DE 161-1355

[redacted] Investigator, Immigration and
Naturalization Service, Detroit, Michigan.

b6
b7C

[redacted] Investigator, United States Customs,
Detroit, Michigan.

Sources of the Detroit office of the FBI, who have
detailed knowledge of organized crime activities in Michigan,
and who have all advised that there is no known illegal or
improper connection between appointee and F & A Cheese Company
are as follows:



b2
b7D

These above sources of the Detroit office have also
advised that F & A Cheese Company has no known connection with
organized crime.

COVER PAGE
B*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-25-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

Copy to:

Report of:

SA [REDACTED]

Office: Detroit, Michigan

Date:

10/20/73

Field Office File #:

161-1355

Bureau File #:

Title:

GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

Character:

SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

Investigation concerning appointee's sponsorship of Bill in 91st Congress to permit permanent residence in United States of alien at request of constituent, Owner of F & A Cheese Company, Grand Rapids, Michigan, revealed unsubstantiated information from **confidential** sources alleging F & A Cheese Company has ties to organized crime. Allegation unsupported by Michigan FBI **confidential** sources. Sources have no information of improper relationship between appointee and F & A Cheese Company.

-P-

DE 161-1355
JSH/esj - 1

On October 17, 1973, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), Chicago Division, advised that the appointee had sponsored a Private Bill on behalf of one [REDACTED].

The purpose of this Bill was to allow [REDACTED] an illegal alien from Italy, to remain in the United States. Mr. FORD introduced this Bill, HR 5381, to the 91st Congress on January 29, 1969.

In addition to the appointee's Private Bill, the INS records revealed four additional bills introduced on behalf of [REDACTED] desire to remain in the United States.

HR 16685, filed July 28, 1966,
introduced by Mr. MULTER.

HR 1704, filed January 10, 1967,
introduced by Mr. MULTER.

b6
b7C

S. 3105, filed November 4, 1969,
introduced by Mr. PROXMIRE

S. 226, filed January 26, 1971,
introduced by Mr. PROXMIRE.

INS records further revealed that Private Bill S. 226 received adverse action on July 20, 1971 and [REDACTED] was granted until February 13, 1972, to depart voluntarily from the United States.

The following investigation was conducted by SA [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on October 17, 1973:

[REDACTED] Investigator, Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), Detroit, Michigan, advised his department's records revealed [REDACTED] was apprehended in 1972 as an illegal alien while working for Belle Cheese Company, Amery, Wisconsin, a subsidiary of F & A Cheese Company, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

DE 161-1355
DLB/dmw - 1

The following investigation was conducted by
SAs [redacted] and [redacted] on October 18,
1973, at Grand Rapids, Michigan:

FRANK TERRANOVA, JR., 5489 East Fulton, Ada, Michigan, advised that he is President and half owner of F & A Cheese Company with administrative offices located at 700 36th Street, SE, Suite 107, Grand Rapids. He advised the other half owner of the business is his brother ANGELO TERRANOVA who is Vice President and who resides in Amery, Wisconsin. He advised that his company owns Belle Cheese Company located in Amery which is the location of the manufacturing portion of their business. He advised they also have a warehouse located at Dresser, Wisconsin, which is the location of F & A Dairy Company also owned by F & A Cheese Company. TERRANOVA advised that he came to the United States from Italy in 1949, served in the United States Army from 1951 through 1953, and upon discharge from the Army came to Grand Rapids and worked for his uncle, FRED TERRANOVA, who was and still is the operator of a food market located on South Division Avenue in Grand Rapids. He advised that FRED TERRANOVA was a friend of GERALD R. FORD's and that through his uncle he met FORD himself.

b6
b7C

[redacted]

He advised that in an effort to aid [redacted] in gaining entrance to the United States, he went to Washington, D. C. with [redacted] and met with FORD and FORD offered his assistance in clearing the path for [redacted] to come to the United States.

He stated that FORD introduced a bill which resulted in [redacted] being allowed to enter legally in approximately 1959.

DE 161-1355
DLB/dmw - 2

TERRANOVA advised that in 1957, he and his brother started their current cheese business and at that time were buying and selling cheese in Wisconsin. He stated that they purchased the Belle Cheese Company in approximately 1965 and began the manufacturing of their own cheese. He stated they had difficulty in producing good quality mozzarella cheese and conducted a search in Wisconsin for a man who was qualified to produce mozzarella cheese. He stated that they located [redacted] who was considered an expert in the cheese business and who was then working for [redacted]. He stated they hired him and subsequently found out that he had only a temporary visa for entry into the United States. He stated that as the time approached when [redacted] visa was to expire they began looking for ways to have his visa extended as they considered him very necessary for the continued operation of their cheese business. He stated he recalled that GERALD FORD had given him assistance in getting clearance for [redacted] to enter the United States so decided to get in touch with FORD again to see if he could assist them in getting the visa of [redacted] extended. He stated he called FORD's office in Washington, D. C. and talked to one of FORD's secretaries and explained the situation. He stated in talking with FORD's secretary it was determined it might be possible to have a bill introduced allowing [redacted] to remain in the United States if he were given a special classification by the Immigration and Naturalization Service as an "extremely skilled worker". He stated FORD subsequently wrote a letter to him advising him that he would introduce such a bill explaining that he could not guarantee that such a bill would be passed. He stated he understood that as a result of FORD's introducing such a bill [redacted] would be allowed to remain in the United States until such time as the bill could be acted upon. He stated that he was later advised by FORD that the bill did not pass and that [redacted] would have to return to Italy. He stated that [redacted] finally returned to Italy in February two or three years ago as he was required to do.

TERRANOVA advised that he has never contributed to any campaign of GERALD FORD's or of anybody in either the Republican or Democratic Parties for any election and that the only reason for his contacts with FORD on these occasions was that FORD was the representative for his home district in Michigan and that he understood that these matters are customarily handled by your Congressman.

DE 161-1355
JSH/esj - 2

Some reliable confidential sources, involved in the investigation of organized crime within the State of Michigan, have in the past advised the Detroit Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that they have received unsubstantiated information to the effect that FRANK and ANGELO TERRANOVA, Owners of F & A Cheese Company of Grand Rapids, Michigan, have ties to elements of La Cosa Nostra, an American criminal organization.

These same confidential sources have, in addition, advised the FBI that there is no information indicating an improper relationship exists between the TERRANOVA brothers and Congressman GERALD R. FORD, nor any suspicion that any such questionable relationship exists now or in the past.

Other established confidential sources of known reliability, who have reported directly to the FBI, Detroit Office, and who are in a position to know intimately of matters related to the association and activities of La Cosa Nostra, have advised the FBI that they have no knowledge and cannot corroborate the unsubstantiated rumors that the TERRANOVA brothers of Grand Rapids have connections or ties to the La Cosa Nostra. These same reliable FBI sources have advised that they have no information indicating an improper relationship existing currently or in the past between the TERRANOVA brothers and Congressman GERALD R. FORD.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE DETROIT	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 10/20/73	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10/16 - 19/73
TITLE OF CASE GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, aka.		REPORT MADE BY SA(A) ROBERT P. KEEMAN	TYPED BY
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 02-25-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY	

REFERENCES: Bureau teletype, dated 10/15/73.
 Detroit report of SA [REDACTED],
 dated 10/17/73.
 Detroit report of SA [REDACTED],
 dated 10/19/73.

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ADMINISTRATIVE

For the information of the Bureau, this report contains only investigation relating to financial information pertaining to GERALD RUDOLPH FORD and his family.

Continuing background investigation of Mr. FORD is being submitted by separate report.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>				SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: 6 - Bureau (AMSD) 1 - Detroit (161-1355) <i>1 filed - Bureau</i>							
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations	
Agency	Request Recd.	Date Fwd.	How Fwd.	by			
161-1355		10/20/73					

COVER PAGE

DE 161-1355

[redacted], has been associated with GERALD R. FORD, JR., for 25 years as set forth in the Campaign Contribution Section of this report. During 1969, [redacted] was interviewed by a Special Agent of the FBI and he testified before a Baltimore Federal Grand Jury regarding [redacted]

[redacted]. An appropriate synopsis of [redacted] interview in 1969, and a review of [redacted] which was obtained by subpoena duces tecum, and an appropriate newspaper article is included following [redacted] interview on October 18, 1973. United States Attorney at Baltimore was of the opinion that [redacted] had perjured himself before the Federal Grand Jury but there is no indication in Detroit File [redacted] that [redacted] was ever indicted for perjury.

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Lead for Alexandria to review bank accounts of appointee's children at [redacted] Alexandria, Virginia, was set out by Detroit teletype to Director and Alexandria, dated 10/19/73.

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DE 161-1355

NON-SYMBOL SOURCES
ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-25-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

Copy to:

Report of:

SA (A) [REDACTED]
October 20, 1973

Office: Detroit, Michigan

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Field Office File #:

161-1355

Bureau File #:

Title:

GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

Character:

SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

[REDACTED] Grand Rapids, Michigan, provided personal background information and detailed financial records concerning Mr. FORD. [REDACTED] has performed accounting and income tax work for Mr. FORD since 1949. [REDACTED] made available copies of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] RICHARD ADDISON FORD, brother of GERALD R. FORD, operates Ford Paint and Varnish Company, Grand Rapids, which is owned by Standard Detroit Paint Company, Detroit, Mich. GERALD R. FORD owns debenture received in 1938 for \$9,031.25. Mr. FORD was appointed Director, Old Kent Bank and Trust Company, Grand Rapids, 1/68 and resigned from the Board of Directors, 2/26/68. Purchase and sale of bank stock required of Director was verified. Mr. FORD has been a director of Rospatch Corporation, Grand Rapids, formerly Rose Patch and Label Company, since 6/16/64 and receives director's fees and travel expenses from the corporation. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Financial records reviewed, bank records verified, securities, insurance and automobile valuations obtained.

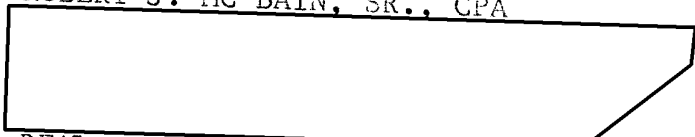
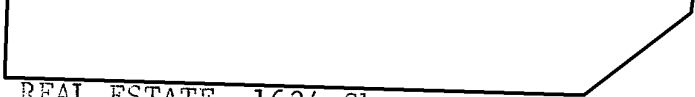
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Detailed statements of nomination and election expenses for GERALD R. FORD, U.S. Representative, 5th District of Michigan, filed with Elections Division, State of Michigan, for elections 8/4/70 - 11/7/72 reviewed and summarized. HILARY F. SNELL, Chairman of Ford for Congress Committee, 1972, and WALTER J. RUSSELL, Chairman of the Friends of Gerald Ford Committee, 1972, interviewed and financial records reviewed. RUSSELL stated that newspapers raised a question of possible wrongdoing in regard to \$11,500 contribution during appointee's 1970 campaign. RUSSELL believes transaction was legal, but had no first-hand involvement with respect to the money. RUSSELL said the most informed person concerning the \$11,500 was FRANK MEYER, Administrative Assistant to appointee, now deceased. GARY MAURINA, Kent County Republican Headquarters and HAROLD M. MC CLURE, JR., Republican State Finance Committee, Chairman, 1970, interviewed. MC CLURE said he had no knowledge of any amount, such as \$11,500, being received by Mr. FORD and not being properly listed in the financial reports. He stated that funds are collected to be used by any Republican political candidate rather than for any one individual. Copies of Michigan Election Laws concerning expenses of candidates set forth. GORDON VANDER TILL, Administrative Assistant to Mr. FORD, stated opinion was given by Attorney WALTER RUSSELL that Michigan Statute limits expenses of candidates individually and not to funds of a campaign committee. DORIS GARRELL recalled that question was raised during 1970 campaign concerning rental of office space. Records show 1970 office space for Ford for Congress Committee was paid by check from the committee.

- P -

DETAILS:

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Page

5. HAROLD M. MC CLURE, JR.
6. PHILIP BUCHER, Attorney
7. MICHIGAN ELECTION LAW
RE: EXPENSES OF CANDIDATES
8. GORDON VANDER TILL, Administrative
Assistant to Mr. FORD
9. DORIS GARRELL

INTERVIEWS

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151-1335
WSS/clg - 1

On October 17-19, 1972, Mr. ROBERT D. MC BAIN, CMA, Certified Public Accountant (C.P.A.), 436 Old East Building, Grand Rapids, Michigan, telephone 459-8257, provided a detailed financial and personal background information and detailed financial records concerning Vice Presidential nominee JACKIE B. BAIN.

Mr. MC BAIN stated he first became acquainted with Mr. FORD in 1939 or 1940 while teaching accounting at the University of Grand Rapids. He stated Mr. FORD was a part-time legal instructor and football coach at the University. In addition to duties at the University, he advised that Mr. FORD was engaged in a law practice with one PHILLIP W. BUCHAN.

He stated that in 1941 Mr. FORD and he decided to explore employment with the FBI. However, they did not submit formal applications seeking employment, instead Mr. FORD accepted a commission in the United States Navy. Mr. MC BAIN advised that shortly after the bombing at Pearl Harbor, he and Mr. FORD parted company until their release from military service in the spring of 1946.

Mr. MC BAIN stated that during 1947, Mr. FORD and Mr. BUCHAN once again became involved in a law practice until Mr. FORD was elected to a congressional seat in the House of Representatives.

He continued, that since 1949 the Mc Bain CPA firm has performed accounting and income tax work for Mr. FORD. In addition, he advised that he was instrumental in obtaining a board position for Mr. FORD and Mr. BUCHAN with Rospatch Corporation, 609 Myrtle, Northwest, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Mr. MC BAIN stated that Mr. FORD is a very conscientious, Protestant attorney who does not get buried in detail to the extent that he loses sight of the issue. He contended that Mr. FORD is an honest family man, practicing the Protestant faith. He further described Mr. FORD as a broad minded Republican, who thoroughly weighs both sides of an issue prior to making any decision.

Mr. MC BAIN made available all financial records pertaining to Mr. FORD and provided copies of income tax returns and worksheets for the years 1963 through 1972. In addition, Mr. MC BAIN prepared an estimated net worth statement, based upon Mr. FORD's financial records.

DE 161-1355
ERS/dmw - 1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA [redacted] on October 19, 1973, at Grand Rapids,
Michigan:

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KENNETH VAN NOORD, Certified Public Accountant,
(CPA), of the Robert J. Mc Bain CPA Firm, 435 Old Kent
Building, Grand Rapids, furnished the following information:

He has been employed by the Mc Bain CPA Firm for
13 years. He has personally prepared Federal income tax
returns for GERALD R. FORD since 1965. VAN NOORD has met
FORD on occasion but does not consider FORD a personal friend.

VAN NOORD advised that Mr. FORD maintains complete
and accurate financial records which he furnishes to the
Mc Bain CPA Firm on a monthly basis. VAN NOORD considers
FORD to be of the highest moral character and mentioned that
FORD readily accepts any suggestions and descisions by the
CPA firm concerning his financial affairs and the preparation
of Federal income tax returns.

DE 161-1355

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The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted], at Grand Rapids, Michigan, on October 17, 1973:

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RICHARD ADDISON FORD, 1547 Woodcliff, Grand Rapids, Michigan, was interviewed at his place of business, at the Ford Paint and Varnish Company, 1339 Elizabeth NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan. He advised he is the brother of GERALD FORD and is currently running the FORD business at this location. He advised that GERALD FORD's only involvement in the family business is a debenture in the amount of \$9,031.25, which was received in 1938. He advised that his brother, JAMES, and he also hold debentures of a similar amount in the business. He advised he expects them to be paid off by 1977.

He advised that there are no general stock holders in this company and that all stock is owned by the Standard Detroit Paint Company, Detroit, Michigan. He advised he is unfamiliar with GERALD FORD's campaign finances and the company was never involved in its support. He also advised that he has stayed away from bidding on any Government contracts so as not to jeopardize his brother's political career. He advised his financial assets are modest and are all handled by DONALD P. MATHESON, Brokerage Firm, Grand Rapids, Michigan. He advised that they amounted to no more than \$50,000.00.

He advised that he feels his brother is an excellent choice for Vice President and that he knows his social and political life to be free of any type of incident, which would cause embarrassment to the Government or to himself and his family.

He advised GERALD FORD is only a moderate social drinker and keeps himself physically fit at all times. He feels that the public and private life of his brother is beyond reproach.

He provided the following information concerning his family:

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LAB:cp 2

He advised his father, GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, died on January 26, 1962, and his mother, DOROTHY GARDNER FORD, passed away on October 28, 1967. He stated his brother, THOMAS GERALD FORD of 900 Pinecrest, East Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born on July 15, 1918, and that his brother, JAMES FRANCIS FORD, 1059 Idema SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan, was born on August 11, 1927, and that he resided at 1547 Woodcliff SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and was born June 30, 1924.

RICHARD FORD further advised that he is unfamiliar with BETTY BLOOMER FORD's background. He advised that he did know that she was a dancing teacher at the Travis Dancing Studio, sponsored by the Women's City Club, Grand Rapids, Michigan. He advised that this dancing studio no longer exists. He further stated that based on his knowledge, Mrs. GERALD FORD was raised by grandparents and both are deceased. He advised that he believed she had a brother but he has no idea of his whereabouts or identity.

He stated that Mrs. GERALD FORD's first husband was formerly employed by Baker Furniture in Grand Rapids, Michigan, but he has since moved to the west coast. He advised that all he could recall of her first husband was his first name which was BILL and the reason for the divorce was incompatibility. He advised he could not provide further information concerning RICHARD FORD's sister-in-law, BETTY.

He advised that since his brother, GERALD, has been in Washington, he sees him only on occasion when he comes back to town for speaking engagements. His contacts have been fairly limited since his brother assumed political office in Washington, but they do maintain contact on the occasions when GERALD FORD comes into town.

DE 161-1355
PJC:fln:kc - 1

The following investigation was conducted by
Special Agent [redacted] at Grand Rapids,
Michigan, on October 17, 1973:

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RICHARD GILLETT, President, Old Kent Bank
and Trust Company, 1 Vandenberg Center, Grand Rapids,
Michigan, furnished the following information:

GILLETT stated that he has known Mr. FORD for
over 30 years and during that time he has found Mr. FORD
to be a man of outstanding capabilities, integrity and
honesty. GILLETT also stated that he is acquainted
with Mr. FORD's entire family and feels that they all
enjoy an excellent reputation in the Grand Rapids area.
He also stated that he has no questions regarding Mr. FORD's
ability to discharge his duties as Vice President or
if it became necessary as President.

GILLETT stated that on January 12, 1968, Mr. FORD
was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Old Kent
Bank and Trust Company. GILLETT stated that at the time of
Mr. FORD's appointment the officers of the bank felt that he
could be of help to the business community of Grand Rapids
and that through his association with the bank Mr. FORD could
also become more aware of the problems confronting the Grand
Rapids, Michigan, area. GILLETT stated that prior to his
appointment, both Mr. FORD and Old Kent Bank officers reviewed
this matter to insure that there can be no reason why he
could not be on the Board of Directors while serving as a
United States Congressman. GILLETT noted that he believes many
members of Congress currently serve as the directors
of different banks throughout the country.

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Following his appointment, GILLETT stated that stories began emanating from Washington, D.C. regarding a possible conflict of interests due to FORD's being a Director of the Bank. Because of these stories, and for no other reason, FORD resigned from the Board of Directors and did not stand for re-election to the Board on February 26, 1968. Prior to his appointment, FORD purchased 100 shares of Old Kent stock in order to comply with a state law that demands that a member on a board of directors of a corporation must hold a minimum of 100 shares in that corporation. GILLETT stated that neither he personally nor the bank lent FORD the money to purchase these shares. In addition, GILLETT stated that neither he personally nor his bank has ever lent money to FORD for any reason whatsoever.

GILLETT stated that while he has contributed to FORD's campaigns in the past, he has never been solicited for campaign contributions by FORD or any member of his staff.

DE 161-1355
MPP/rlg - 1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA [redacted] on October 16, 1973, at Grand Rapids,
Michigan:

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Honorable JOHN T. LETTS, Judge, 17th Judicial Circuit Court of Michigan, Second Floor, Hall of Justice Building, Grand Rapids, advised that he first met Appointee 19 years ago and has maintained a close personal relationship with him since that time.

He stated that Appointee has backed him during his career in Grand Rapids and recently suggested that he, LETTS, file an application for position as Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission.

LETTS advised that he considers Appointee to be one of the most honest individuals he knows, explaining that approximately five years ago Appointee was appointed a member of the Board of the Old Kent Bank in Grand Rapids; however, he shortly thereafter removed himself from that position due to the fact a question of conflict of interest was raised and rather than be connected with any question of his integrity he removed himself from this position.

LETTS stated that being a Negro he felt that Appointee during his many years in Congress had been extremely fair with the blacks and other minorities and had never heard anyone from this area mention him as being **prejudiced in any manner**. He stated that he personally felt that Appointee had been as fair as humanly possible concerning the blacks and other minority groups.

LETTS further advised that he knows Appointee's brothers and in fact his brother JAMES is his personal optometrist, adding that both he and JAMES FORD are members of the Grand Rapids Michigan Lions Club.

He stated that the only complaint he has heard from residents in this area is that Appointee has not made very many political appointments from this area during his many years in the Congress and some individuals believe that he should have attempted to get many more Michigan residents in government jobs.

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W/rle - 2

WALS advised that he has served in his present position as a Circuit Court Judge for the past 14 1/2 years and has maintained contact with WFO through his visits back to Cleveland to speak at various Republican party conventions. He stated that WFO is an excellent and effective speaker and he also knows him to be a quiet individual who exercises sound judgment on all things.

WALS stated that he would highly recommend WFO for the position of Vice President of the United States without any reservations whatsoever, adding that he believed the President had made a very wise decision in selecting WFO for this high office.

FINANCES

DE 161-1355

FINANCES

On October 17, 1973, ROBERT J. MC BAIN, Sr., C.P.A., 435 Old Kent Building, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Telephone Number 459-8257, advised Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] that his firm was prepared to provide any and all financial data regarding GERALD R. FORD which was in their possession.

Mr. MC BAIN explained that he had received a telephone call from Mr. FORD on October 16, 1973, at which time Mr. FORD had requested the McBain C.P.A. Firm's cooperation in assisting the FBI in its investigation.

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Mr. MC BAIN made available copies of the following records to Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted]:



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[redacted] are summarized as follows:

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WDV:nar - 1

The following information was obtained from a review of records made available by Mr. MC BAIN to SAs [redacted] and [redacted] on October 17-19, 1973:

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Congressman FORD maintains a checking account with the Sergeant At Arms, House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. He has the only authorized signature on this account. Copies of all deposit slips along with explanations of the deposits, monthly bank statements and all cancelled checks are maintained by MC BAIN for the past years.

In the bank book, Mr. FORD states the purpose of each check deposit in this account consist primarily of salary and honorariums.

He also maintains a joint checking account with his wife at Central Bank, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Deposits in this account are generally rental income and other minor income.

MC BAIN prepares detailed cash receipts and disbursement books on both of these accounts. At the end of each year the totals are posted to the tax work papers and after minor adjusting, entire balance sheets and profit and loss statements are prepared. From the tax work papers figures are transferred to the tax returns.

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MC BAIN [redacted]

DE 161-1355
WDV/clc - 1

The average cash balances for the account of GERALD FORD are as follows:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SERGEANT AT ARMS</u>	<u>CENTRAL BANK</u>
1973	\$3,551.07	\$530.17
1972	1,508.56	445.28
1971	1,609.03	353.23
1970	2,922.35	474.82

DE 161-1355
WDV/dmf/pjf - 1

The following comments are made regarding the review of the financial records of Mr. FORD as prepared by Mr. MC BAIN and made available to SA [REDACTED] on October 19, 1973:

1973 RECEIPTS

All 1973 receipts were reviewed and no unusual items were noted. Receipts of 1973 were not broken down by class until Mr. FORD provides more information to his accountants. The review disclosed the normal sources of income.

ADJUSTING ENTRIES

All adjusting entries were reviewed from 1970 to 1973 and nothing unusual was noted.

STATEMENT OF NET WORTH SEPTEMBER 30, 1973

Under assets, MC BAIN advised that the cash in payments was estimated at \$2,000.00. The amount listed as Mr. FORD's contributed cost to the retirement fund was obtained from Mr. FORD's office in Washington. The real estate values for the property in Alexandria, Virginia; Vail, Colorado; Grand Rapids, Michigan, and South Branch Township, Michigan, were obtained from Mr. FORD's office in Washington. The value of the furnishings for his rental and personal residences were obtained from Mr. FORD's office also. General bills outstanding were estimated at \$1,500.00. The notes payable to the National Bank of Washington were traced to the cash receipts and cash disbursement book.

FIXED ASSETS

The 1968 Chrysler is the only vehicle shown on the tax work papers. The 50% cost was traced to the cash disbursement book in 1968, the other 50% is considered personal use and therefore, not included in the tax work papers.

The Grand Rapids Sherman home account has had no change since 1962. MC BAIN advised that he does not have any cost records prior to 1962.

DE 161-1355
WDV/dmf/pjf - 2

Furniture and fixtures for the Sherman home account were traced to the cash disbursement book. The only change to the Sherman improvement account is an expenditure of \$1,891.90 which was traced to the cash disbursement book.

Vail, Colorado, property cost, which included land, building and furnishings, were traced to the cash disbursement books for 1970 through 1972.

Depreciation schedules were reviewed for the business and rental property and appeared to be proper.

Investments as of 1972 on the tax work papers consists of \$250.00 for the Spring Valley Hunt and Country Club and \$1,600.00 as a one-fourth interest in the Cabrefae Cabin. Both of these items were traced to the original books of entry.

Liabilities as of December 31, 1972, were verified to the cash receipts and cash disbursement books.

Comparative balance sheets were prepared on Mr. FORD from 1962 through 1972, from the tax work papers. These balance sheets do not include all of Mr. FORD's assets. Those assets which have been omitted are stocks owned or debenture bonds owned, a savings account, household goods of his Washington home and those automobiles which are used exclusively for personal use.

It would not be proper to compare these tax worth sheet balance sheets to his statement of net worth dated December 31, 1972, as the September 30, 1973, statement of net worth included current valuation as compared to historical costs.

JAB:fln-1
DE 161-1355

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted] at Grand Rapids, Michigan, on October 17, 1973:

DOROTHY PYMAN, Deputy Clerk, Register of Deeds, Kent County Administration Building, 300 Monroe Avenue, Northwest, Grand Rapids, Michigan, advised that on July 5, 1950, GERALD R. FORD, Jr., and ELIZABETH B. FORD, husband and wife, purchased real estate located at 1624 Sherman Street, Southeast, Grand Rapids, Michigan, from [redacted] husband and wife. She advised this property was purchased for approximately \$22,000. She advised that FORD and his wife obtained a mortgage on this property with Grand Rapids Mutual Federal Savings and Loan Association, 201 Monroe Avenue, Northwest, Grand Rapids, Michigan. She advised that the amount of this mortgage was \$18,000 with interest at the rate of four per cent per annum on the unpaid balance until paid. She advised that mortgage payments on this property were payable on monthly installments of \$109.08 commencing on August 1, 1950, and terminating on July 1, 1970. She advised that this mortgage was discharged on May 25, 1966.

W.J. HOEKSTRA, Clerk, Kent County Treasury's Office, 300 Monroe Avenue, Grand Rapids, Michigan, advised that a review of the records of his office indicated that taxes on the above mentioned property are currently paid. He stated that his records indicated that FORD has never been delinquent on the payments of these taxes.

JAB:fln-2
DE 161-1355

JAMES D. SORG, City Income Tax Administrator,
City Building, Grand Rapids, Michigan, advised that
under current tax laws, FORD is currently exempt from
paying city taxes in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

DE 161-1355
PRS/ptm - 1

The following investigation was conducted by SA
[redacted] on October 18, 1973, at Grand Rapids, Michigan:

The National Market Reports, Incorporated, Official Used Cars Valuations-Region A, October 1 through November 14, 1973, also known as the "Red Book", reflects the following information:

1968 Chrysler	\$ 975.00
1972 Jeep	\$2,530.00
1969 Mustang	\$1,300.00
1971 Mustang	\$2,000.00

Total	\$6,805.00
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The following investigation was conducted by SA
[redacted] on October 19, 1973, at Grand Rapids, Michigan:

JOHN J. MORIARTY, Vice-President, George A. Miller, Incorporated, 1407 Robinson Road, Southeast, Grand Rapids, Michigan, advised that the FORD residence, Sherman Drive, would be currently appraised between \$18,900.00 and \$21,500.00.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 10/18/73

Records of the Union Bank and Trust Company, N.A., 200 Ottawa Avenue, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan, indicated that GERALD R. FORD, JR., 425 Cherry, Grand Rapids, maintained a checking account with that bank. The account number is [redacted] and was opened on August 1, 1972. The current balance is \$106.10 which is the high balance for the year. The average balance for the last three quarters was \$73.00. The account reflects very little activity and appears to be dormant.

Interviewed on 10/17/73 at Grand Rapids, Michigan File # Detroit 161-1355

by SA [redacted] /dmw Date dictated 10/18/73

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 10/18/73

Records of the Union Bank and Trust Company, N.A., 200 Ottawa Avenue, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan, indicated a checking account number [redacted] in the name of GERALD R. FORD, Fifth District Account, House Office Building, Washington, D. C. This account was opened on November 1, 1960, and there is a current balance of \$1,290.02 as of October 17, 1973. The average balance for the past year was \$1,446.00. Review of the statements for this account since it was opened revealed no unusual activity or unusually large deposits or withdrawals.

*Det. advised: Sampled from records of checks drawn on account
and on all other accounts. JCB*

Interviewed on 10/17/73 at Grand Rapids, Michigan File # Detroit 161-1355by SA [redacted] dmw Date dictated 10/18/73

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 10/19/73

Records of the Union Bank and Trust Company, N.A., 200 Ottawa Avenue, NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan, indicated that the Fifth District Republican Committee, 1435 Genesee, Grand Rapids, did maintain a checking account with that bank. The account number was [redacted] and was opened in February, 1964, and closed on February 27, 1973. A review of account [redacted] revealed an average monthly balance of \$2,257.00. There were no unusual transactions noted during the review of the account.

Interviewed on 10/19/73 at Grand Rapids, Michigan File # Detroit 161-1355

by SA (A) [redacted] /dmw Date dictated 10/19/73

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DE 161-1355
MNK/srd - 1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA [REDACTED] on October 19, 1973, at Grand Rapids,
Michigan:

A review of the Detailed Statement of Nomination and Election Expenses for the 5th District Republican Committee revealed the majority of the disbursements were for salary payments to employees and the receipts were received from the Kent County Republican Finance Committee.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 10/19/73

Records of Central Bank, 65 Monroe Street, Grand Rapids, Michigan, show GERALD R. FORD, JR. has three savings accounts.

The first account, number 05504-261-4, is currently closed. This account was opened on October 4, 1967, and closed November 15, 1968. The account was opened in the amount of \$27.44 in connection with a court order. The average balance was \$85.00 and no unusual activity was noted. This was an estate account and was opened in the name of THOMAS G. FORD, GERALD R. FORD, JR., [redacted] and JAMES F. FORD, co-executors, Estate of DOROTHY FORD, Deceased, 601 Crosby, Northwest, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504.

The second account was opened in the name of GERALD R. FORD, JR., on April 25, 1941, under account number [redacted]. This account was subsequently changed to a joint account with [redacted]. The average monthly balance was \$475.00 and there was no unusual activity on this account.

The third savings account was in the name of THOMAS G. FORD and GERALD R. FORD under account number [redacted]. This account listed an address of 1043 Lake Grove, Southeast, Grand Rapids, Michigan. This is a joint account opened in the amount of \$574.88 and has maintained an average balance of \$55.00 with the present balance being \$3.95. There has not been any activity on this account since September 7, 1966.

The Central Bank records reflect that there has never been any personal loans or mortgages made to GERALD R. FORD, JR. and there is no record of any checking accounts.

The Central Bank records also indicate that there has never been any problems with any of Mr. FORD's accounts.

Interviewed on 10/17/73 at Grand Rapids, Michigan File Detroit 161-1355

by SA [redacted]/srd

10/17/73

Date dictated

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 10/20/73

Records of the Grand Rapids Mutual Federal Savings and Loan Association, Monroe at Lyons, Grand Rapids, Michigan, reflected that Mr. GERALD R. FORD, JR. had taken out a Veteran's Administration insured loan on July 5, 1950, for \$18,000.00 on a dual family dwelling at 1624 Sherman Street, Grand Rapids, which was valued at \$21,000.00. This loan was for a 20 year term, and was paid off May 25, 1966, with a final payment of \$1,259.01. There were three other large lump sum payments, which were on November 29, 1965 for \$1,500.00, December 20, 1965 for \$1,000.00 and February 25, 1966 for \$1,000.00. There were never any problems with this account, and the record indicates Mr. FORD always stayed ahead on his payments.

Mr. FORD also maintained a savings account at Grand Rapids Mutual, which was opened on February 9, 1967, shortly after Mr. FORD's mortgage on 1624 Sherman Street was paid off. The account number is [redacted] and was opened with an initial deposit of \$2,800.00. This is a joint account in the names of GERALD R. FORD, JR. and [redacted]. The maximum balance for this account was \$7,759.37, on April 1, 1970, and the current balance, as of October 17, 1973, is \$281.57. There were three large deposits on November 24, 1967 for \$1,000.00, July 5, 1968 for \$2,600.00 and November 18, 1968 for \$2,600.00. The largest withdrawal was on April 8, 1968 for \$5,200.00. The majority of the deposits were in approximately \$100.00 increments.

Interviewed on 10/17/73 at Grand Rapids, Michigan File # Detroit 161-1355

by SA [redacted] /emp Date dictated 10/20/73

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JFK/emp - 1

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

The following investigation was conducted by
SA [REDACTED], on October 17, 1973, at Grand Rapids,
Michigan:

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Mr. DAVID M. HOOGERHYDE, President, Mutual Home Federal Savings and Loan Association, 88 Market NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan, advised that he did not recall Congressman GERALD R. FORD, JR., ever having any type of account at that institution. A search of records revealed no account in Mr. FORD's name or his wife's name, ELIZABETH B. FORD. Mr. HOOGERHYDE felt it was possible Mr. FORD may have an account at the Grand Rapids Mutual Federal Savings and Loan Association, because Mr. FORD's father had been a member of the Board of Directors of that institution several years ago.

Mr. GEORGE L. YOUNG, President, Grand Rapids Mutual Federal Savings and Loan Association, Monroe at Lyons, Grand Rapids, advised that he had known Congressman GERALD R. FORD, JR. since the late 1940s. Mr. YOUNG stated that Mr. FORD's financial transactions at that institution had been totally satisfactory. Mr. YOUNG has been acquainted with the FORD family since 1938, when GERALD R. FORD, SR. became a member of the Board of Directors of Grand Rapids Mutual. Mr. YOUNG felt that GERALD, JR. was a carbon copy of his father, who was a man of the highest integrity, character, reputation and morals. The Senior Mr. FORD was a highly respected member of the community until his death in January, 1962. Mr. YOUNG felt that Mr. FORD, JR. was a loyal American, and associated only with the highest caliber of people. Mr. YOUNG felt that Mr. FORD was very open-minded on civil rights issues. He could think of nothing derogatory regarding any member of Mr. FORD's family, and felt that Mr. FORD was an excellent choice as a Vice Presidential appointee.

DE 161-1355
MWK/kd -1

SECURITIES

The following investigation was conducted by SA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], at Grand Rapids, Michigan, on October 18, 1973:

GEORGE R. HOLLISTER, Partner, Hudson, White and Company, 101 F Waters Building, Grand Rapids, Michigan, was interviewed concerning stock purchases in Rospach Corporation by GERALD R. FORD. HOLLISTER indicated the only transaction handled by Hudson, White and Company for Mr. FORD was on May 4, 1973. HOLLISTER advised that on that date Mr. FORD purchased the following stock in the Rospach Corporation which is sold "Over-The-Counter":

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Number Of Shares</u>	<u>Amount Per Share</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Stockholder</u>
5/4/73	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
5/4/73				GERALD FORD, Custodian for [REDACTED]
5/4/73				GERALD FORD, Custodian for [REDACTED]

HOLLISTER indicated that the above stock was delivered on May 25, 1973 to either GERALD FORD's home at 514 Crown View Drive, Alexandria, Virginia, or his office in the Federal Building, Grand Rapids, Michigan. HOLLISTER advised that the above stock may have been previously owned by Marquerite Company before Mr. FORD's purchase but was unable to tell from his records.

HOLLISTER was unable to furnish any information on the stock held by Mr. FORD in the Central Telephone and Utilities Company or the Stein, Roe, Farnum Balance Fund Inc. HOLLISTER indicated he believed the stock in the above two companies was purchased on the Eastern Market. HOLLISTER provided a value of \$22.05 per share from the Wall Street Journal of October 18, 1973, concerning the stock in Stein, Roe, Farnum Balance Fund Inc., and \$23.50 value per share for Central Telephone and Utilities.

JAB:fln-1
DE 161-1355

OLD KENT BANK STOCK

On October 18, 1973, ROBERT J. MC BAIN made available copies of two confirmation forms from MacNaughton-Greenawalt and Company, Investment Bankers, 350 Old Kent Building, One Vandenberg Center, Grand Rapids, Michigan, to GERALD R. FORD, 514 Crown View Drive, Alexandria, Virginia.

One reflects the purchase by FORD of 100 shares of Old Kent Bank and Trust Company, Common at 32 5/8 per share for a total price of \$3,262.50. The trade date is reflected as January 2, 1968, and the settlement date as January 8, 1968. FORD's cash disbursements book, maintained by MC BAIN, reflects the amount due was paid by check number 395 on his Sergeant-at-Arms account, which check was dated January 9, 1968, in the amount of \$3,262.50 payable to MacNaughton--Greenawalt.

The second reflects the sale by FORD of 105 shares of common stock of Old Kent Bank and Trust Company (five shares received as stock dividend) at 34½ per share for a total price of \$3,622.50. The trade date is reflected as September 13, 1968, and the settlement date as September 20, 1968. FORD's cash receipts book, maintained by MC BAIN, reflects the \$3,622.50 was deposited in the Sergeant-at-Arms account on September 17, 1968.

A review of the tax worksheets prepared by FORD's accountant, ROBERT J. MC BAIN, for the years 1963 through 1972 reflect the following amounts of income

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DE 161-1355
MWK/ted 1

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [REDACTED] at Grand Rapids, Michigan, on October 18, 1973:

BOB DURHAM, Broker, Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner, and Smith, Incorporated, 126 Ottawa, Grand Rapids, Michigan, provided the following information concerning the market value of Rospatch Corporation on this date:

Bid Price: \$15.50 per share
Asking Price: \$16.50 per share
Buying Price: \$16.00 per share

DE 161-1355
JKG/dmw - 1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA [redacted] on October 19, 1973, at Grand Rapids,
Michigan:

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ROBERT J. MC BAIN, Certified Public Accountant,
435 Old Kent Building, Grand Rapids, provided SA [redacted]
[redacted] details concerning [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

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MC BAIN advised the September 30, 1973, market value
as being \$21.60 per share as obtained from Grand Rapids
Brokerage Firm Paine, Weber, Jackson and Curtis. Total
market value \$1,299.00 is listed on the September 30, 1973,
balance sheet.

MC BAIN stated FORD's records do not disclose a
date or dates of purchase. All dividends have been re-
invested in additional shares.

DE 161-1355
TFS/bjk - 1

ROSPATCH CORPORATION

On October 17, 1973, the following items were furnished to SA [] from Mr. RICHARD F. BRUSH, President and Chief Executive, Rospatch Corporation, 609 Myrtle, Northwest, Grand Rapids, Michigan, telephone number 451-3007:

1. Copies of Travel Vouchers submitted by GERALD FORD since September, 1965, regarding his travel expenses to and from Board of Director meetings.
2. Copies of []
[]
3. One copy of the Rospatch Corporation Annual Report, dated 1972.
4. Copies from Stockholders Ledger indicating stockholdings of GERALD FORD in Rospatch Corporation and Beneficiaries.
5. One copy of the minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors, Rose Patch and Label Company, dated June 16, 1964. The copy contains a statement as to GERALD FORD's election to the Board of Directors.

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The above records were reviewed by SA(A) []
[] on October 17, 1973, and are included in the following:

DE 161-1355
TFS/bjk - 2

Rospatch Corporation
June, 1964 - October 10, 1973
GERALD R. FORD, JR.,
Member of the Board of Directors

FORD was elected to the Board of Directors of Rose Patch and Label Company on June 16, 1964. Rose Patch and Label Company name changed to Rospatch during the year of 1968. FORD received the below fees for being a member on the Board of Directors:

Director Fees

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1964	\$ 600.00
1965	1,200.00
1966	1,200.00
1967	1,200.00
1968	1,300.00
1969	1,400.00
1970	1,700.00
1971	1,700.00
1972	1,600.00

The below travel expenses were paid to FORD for attending Board of Director meetings for Rospatch Corporation. The primary expenses were for air transportation from Washington, D.C., to Grand Rapids, and returned.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1964	\$ - 0 -
1965	245.34
1966	62.45
1967	277.63
1968	46.75
1969	175.48
1970	710.04
1971	457.40
1972	512.00
Oct, 1973	486.54

DE 161-1355
TFS/bjk - 3

GERALD R. FORD, JR. family owns the following
stock in Rospatch Corporation:

<u>Owner</u>	<u>Outstanding Stock Shares as of 3/7/73</u>
GERALD R. FORD, Custodian for [REDACTED]	65
GERALD R. FORD, Custodian for [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

According to the 1972 annual report, Rospatch Corporation is engaged in manufacturing labels and tapes and packaging, has machinery and equipment companies and a film extrusion subsidiary.

DE 161-1355

TFS/vlm-1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA [redacted] on October 17, 1973, at Grand Rapids,
Michigan:

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Mr. WILLIAM J. CHAILLE, [redacted]
East Grand Rapids, Michigan, telephone number [redacted]
Chairman of the Board of Directors, Rospatch Corporation,
Exhibitors Building, Grand Rapids, telephone number 458-1464,
advised that he has known GERALD FORD since 1954. He stated
that he has known Mr. FORD well since 1964 when Mr. FORD came
on as a member of the Board of Directors. Mr. FORD became
a member of the Board of Directors at Rospatch Corporation
on June 16, 1964, and is presently a member of the board.
Mr. CHAILLE stated that he understands Mr. FORD will resign
from the Board of Directors if he is confirmed for the
Vice-Presidency. Mr. CHAILLE stated that Mr. FORD receives
a directors fee of \$1,200.00 a year. All board members
receive this fee per year whether they attend board meetings
or not. Mr. CHAILLE continued by stating that a board
member receives an additional \$100.00 for each meeting
attended. There are six board meetings per year. In addition
all out of town travel expenses with regard to board meetings
are paid for.

When questioned concerning reputation as to sobriety,
honesty, trustworthiness, reliability and discretion, Mr.
CHAILLE advised that GERALD FORD is the epitome of these
qualities. Mr. CHAILLE maintained that Mr. FORD never received
any favors and was treated as any other board member. As far
as Mr. CHAILLE is concerned there are no activities on the part
of GERALD FORD which would reveal a lack of the above qualities.
Mr. CHAILLE maintained that Mr. FORD is a dedicated American
citizen. The Board of Directors asked Mr. FORD to become a
member of the board in order that Mr. FORD could learn the
problems of a small corporation. According to Mr. CHAILLE,
Mr. FORD felt it was important to be exposed to this. Mr.
CHAILLE stated that Mr. FORD has a small amount of stock in
the Rospatch Corporation, and that the beneficiaries are his
family members. Mr. CHAILLE stated "we have no special
connections with Mr. FORD". Mr. CHAILLE further maintained
that President NIXON did a tremendous thing in choosing GERALD
FORD for the Vice-Presidency. Mr. CHAILLE stated that as far

DE 161-1355
TFS/vlm/mmnr - 2

as he knew GERALD FORD has maintained only the best associations. Democrats and Republicans alike think highly of Mr. FORD, and Mr. FORD has been very loyal to the Republican Party. Mr. CHAILLE stated, "I don't consider myself a Republican, but he (Mr. FORD) is terrific."

PJC/dmw:psn - 1
DE 161-1355

TRUST FUND-KENT COUNTY PROBATE COURT

The following investigation was conducted by SA
[redacted] on October 17, 1973, at Grand Rapids,

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Michigan:

ROSEMARY SCOTT, Grand Rapids Mutual Building, advised she has known Appointee since approximately 1946. She considers Appointee to be a very capable and honest individual who would make an ideal candidate for President. She also stated that she is acquainted with Appointee's family and they enjoy a high reputation in the Grand Rapids community. On a professional level SCOTT stated that she has handled estate work for Appointee regarding a trust fund set up for Appointee's four children as a result of a bequest by the late GRACE T. GODWIN of Grand Rapids. This estate was begun in 1966 and was filed under Kent County Probate Court Number [redacted]. SCOTT stated that this was a public record and any further information regarding this matter could be obtained through the court. SCOTT also stated that Mrs. ELIZABETH FORD was the guardian of this trust fund.

DE 161-1355
PJC/dmw - 1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA [REDACTED] on October 17, 1973, at Grand
Rapids, Michigan:

A review of the estate of GRACE T. GODWIN of
Grand Rapids at the Kent County Probate Court revealed the
following information:

On March 17, 1962, GODWIN executed a last will and
testament and among other requests left [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

On October 14, 1965, GODWIN died and this will was
brought for probate action on October 15, 1965.

On February 3, 1967, Mrs. ELIZABETH FORD, wife of
Appointee, was appointed guardian of this trust inasmuch as
her four children were minors. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

DE 161-1355
JKG/ptn - 1

LIFE INSURANCE

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted] on October 19, 1973, at Grand Rapids, Michigan:

ROBERT J. MC BAIN, Certified Public Accountant, 435 Old Kent Building, Grand Rapids, Michigan, provided SA [redacted] information concerning three ordinary life insurance policies with the New England Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Policy number 2558899 carries a \$15,000.00 face amount for GERALD FORD, annual premium \$583.60, cash value \$4,888.80.

Policy number 3019587 carries a \$10,000.00 face amount for GERALD FORD, annual premium \$433.10, cash value \$2,101.30.

Policy number [redacted] carries a [redacted] face amount for [redacted] annual premium [redacted], cash value [redacted]

MC BAIN stated the insurance agent in charge of the above accounts is [redacted] Grand Rapids, Michigan. The cash values of the policies were traced into the September, 30, 1973, balance sheet of GERALD FORD.

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TVF/srd - 1

LIABILITY INSURANCE

The following investigation was conducted by
SA [REDACTED], at Grand Rapids, Michigan, on
October 18, 1973:

DANIEL HEINES, Heines-Gobel Insurance Company,
308 Waters Building, Grand Rapids, Michigan, advised that
he has been acquainted with GERALD R. FORD for about 25
years. He would not consider himself a close personal
friend but more of a business associate. He advised that
his insurance agency has written six separate policies
for Mr. FORD and his family.

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HEINES stated Mr. FORD is a man of outstanding
character and moral background. He did not know of anything
derogatory about Mr. FORD or any members of his family.
Mr. FORD and his entire family enjoy an outstanding reputation
in the Grand Rapids area. He highly recommended Mr. FORD
to serve as Vice President of the United States.

HEINES provided the following information concerning
Mr. FORD's insurance policies:

St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company
St. Paul, Minnesota

1. Personal Umbrella Liability
Policy Number: [REDACTED]
Annual Premium: \$101.00
Coverage: \$1,000,000 personal liability
2. Homeowners Policy
Policy Number: [REDACTED]
Annual Premium: \$471.00
Coverage: 514 Crown View Drive,
Alexandria, Virginia
House: \$65,000
Private Structures: \$6,500
*Personal Property: \$40,000 (See attached sheet)

DE 161-1355
TVF/srd - 2

Additional Living Expenses: \$13,000
Personal Liability: \$50,000
Medical Payments: \$500.00

Policy Endorsement:
1624 Sherman Drive, Southeast, Grand Rapids

Personal Property: \$2,400
Credit Card Forgery: \$10,000

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3. Automobile Policy
Policy Number:
Semi-Annual Premium: \$372.40
Coverage: 1969 - Mustang
 1971 - Mustang

Bodily Injury: \$100,000 - \$300,000
Property Damage: \$10,000
Medical: \$1,000
Comprehensive
Collision: \$50 Deductible
Uninsured Motorist: \$20,000 - \$40,000
No Fault Endorsement

4. Automobile Policy
Policy Number:
Annual Premium: \$607.60
Coverage: 1968 Chrysler
 1972 Jeep

(Limits are the same as policy number 3)

5. General Liability
Policy Number:
Annual Premium: \$67.00
Coverage: Congressional Office - 720 Federal
 Building, Grand Rapids, Michigan
Bodily Injury: \$300,000
Property: \$50,000
Personal Injury: \$100,000 - \$300,000

DE 161-1355
TVF/srd - 3

Formost Insurance Company
Grand Rapids, Michigan

6. Motorcycle Policy
Policy Number:
Annual Premium: \$112.00
Coverage: 1972 Yamaha - John G. Ford
Bodily Injury: \$100,000 - \$300,000
Property Damage: \$10,000
Collision: \$50 deductible

HEINES advised that all of the above policies
are in force and claim information could be made available
if necessary.

DE 161-1355
MPP/bjk - 1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA [redacted] at Grand Rapids, Michigan, on
October 17, 1973:

GARY SNIDER, Claims Manager, St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company, 1324 Lake Drive, Grand Rapids, advised that any checks from Mr. GERALD R. FORD written to this firm would, in all probability, be for premiums on insurance policies written and handled through the Heines-Goebel Insurance Company, 308 Waters Building, telephone number 454-8257.

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[redacted] Secretary, Heines-Goebel Insurance Company, advised that her office records reflect that Mr. GERALD R. FORD has two automobile insurances; a home owner's policy on his Grand Rapids, Michigan, residence, and an insurance policy covering his Grand Rapids Congressional office, which he has had with this firm for the past several years. She stated that the premiums on the two automobile insurance policies are payable to the St. Paul Mercury Insurance Company.

She advised that in addition, Mr. FORD in 1972, obtained an insurance policy on [redacted] and a personal liability insurance policy for himself.

She stated that DAN HEINES, President of this agency, was the individual who handles Mr. FORD's insurance policies. She stated that DAN HEINES was out of town on this date, but could be contacted on the following day.

DE 161-1355

INFORMATION REGARDING
CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

DE 161-1355
JHC/clc:psn - 1

Copies of GERALD R. FORD's detailed statements of Nomination and Election Expenses for the year of 1972, were provided by WILLIAM H. FITZSIMMONS, Chief Deputy Clerk of Court, Kent County, Grand Rapids, Michigan, to SA [REDACTED] on October 17, 1973:

These are official records and only kept on file in Kent County for one year. Records for previous years can be obtained through the Secretary of State's Office, Election Division, Lansing, Michigan.

These reports are as follows:

<u>DATE OF ELECTION</u>	<u>TYPE OF ELECTION</u>	<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>COMMITTEE</u>
8/8/72	Primary	\$4,106.76	\$6,135.00	GERALD R. FORD, Congressman, Republican
8/8/72	Primary			Not designated
11/7/72	General	\$14,392.57	\$20,087.01	Friends of Jerry Ford Committee
11/7/72	General	\$31,798.18	\$20,752.08	GERALD R. FORD Congressman Republican
11/7/72	General	\$535.28	\$627.07	Latvians for Ford
11/7/72	General			Not designated

The following investigation was conducted by
Special Agent [REDACTED] at Lansing, Michigan,
on October 17, 1973:

Mr. BERNARD J. APOL, Director, Elections Division,
Department of State, Treasury Building, Lansing, Michigan,
provided xerox copies of fourteen "Detailed Statements of
Nomination and Election Expenses" pertaining to GERALD R.
FORD, United States Representative, Fifth District of
Michigan. Of these copies, two are dated August, 1972,
five are dated November, 1970, two are dated August, 1970
and five are dated November, 1972. Also provided are
two handwritten pages spelling out FORD's relative
standing in the election conducted since he first ran
for office in 1948. The Detailed Statements are
summarized as follows:

<u>Date of</u> <u>Section</u>	<u>Type of</u> <u>Election</u>	<u>Obligations</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Committee</u>
4/4/70	Primary		\$ 6,079.00	\$ 6,079.00	1
4/4/70	Primary				7
3/3/70	General	\$1,560.37	7,830.23	9,706.13	2
3/3/70	General	2,500.00	7,191.69	9,950.00	3
3/3/70	General		10,500.00	10,500.00	1
3/3/70	General		1,215.00	1,215.00	4
3/3/70	General				7
8/8/72	Primary		4,106.76	6,135.00	8
8/8/72	Primary				7
7/7/72	General		14,392.57	20,087.01	5
7/7/72	General		6,253.58	5,300.00	6
7/7/72	General		31,798.18	20,752.08	8
7/7/72	General		535.28	627.07	3
7/7/72	General				7

Committees

- 1 Ford for Congress Committee
- 2 Veterans for Ford
- 3 Latvians for Ford
- 4 Greek-American Committee for Ford
- 5 Friends of Jerry Ford Committee
- 6 5th District Republican Committee
- 7 Not Designated
- 8 Gerald R. Ford, Congressman, Republican

A review of the above statements by SA KEEHAN did not
reveal any irregular receipts or disbursements.

DE 161-1355
RFB/cp:clc - 1

The following investigation was conducted by SA
[redacted] at Grand Rapids, Michigan, on October 18,
1973:

BRITTON L. GORDON, Vice President, Dover Company, 2627 East Beltline, SE, telephone number 942-9720, advised that he served as Treasurer of the "GERALD R. FORD for Congressman Committee", when the committee was in existence. As treasurer of the committee, he was required to submit forms entitled, "Detailed Statements of Nomination and Election Expenses" to the County Clerk of Kent County, Michigan, in accordance with the provisions of the Michigan Election Law. These reports set forth detailed receipts, disbursements, and unpaid debts or obligations incurred at the primary and general elections held in the 5th Congressional District of Michigan, on August 8, 1972, and November 7, 1972, respectively.

He was also required to submit a detailed report setting forth campaign expenses for GERALD FORD's campaign to the Clerk of the House of Representatives. He noted that the provisions of the Michigan Election Law regarding the reporting of election expenses differed from requirements of the United States House of Representatives reporting procedures and this is why the figures on both of the reports submitted do not agree. He further noted that Michigan Election Law required the reporting of election expenses for a specific period of time covering the election only and does not require reporting of all the campaign expenses.

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POLITICAL ASSOCIATES

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted] on October 17, 1973, at Grand Rapids, Michigan:

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HILARY F. SNELL, 1065 Plymouth Road, SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan, Attorney and Chairman of Ford For Congress Committee, provided the following information:

SNELL stated he has known appointee for 19 to 20 years almost entirely in a political nature although there have been many social contacts. During the early part of 1972, SNELL and BRITT GORDON established the Ford For Congress Committee which uses SNELL's law office at 620 Old Kent Building, Grand Rapids, as its mailing address. This committee collected funds for appointee's congressional campaign during 1972 and 1973. Records of the committee's transactions are kept at SNELL's office and with BRITT GORDON as well as being filed in Washington, D. C., with the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Prior to and during the 1970 campaign, appointee served as treasurer of his own campaign mainly because he felt the most effective way to stay abreast of the campaign was to be active and do the job himself. It was for this reason appointee handled campaign expenditures in 1970 that created some question regarding \$11,500.00 in contributions that were transferred to the National Republican Committee in Washington, D. C. SNELL stated there was nothing irregular to his knowledge in this matter; however, he did not know the specifics of the transaction.

SNELL stated appointee's financial holdings and interests were limited to his family business in Grand Rapids and being on the Board of Directors of Rospatch Label Corporation for which he received a small yearly salary. In the past, appointee served on the Board of Directors for the Old Kent Bank but has since resigned this post. Aside from the appointee's home in Grand Rapids, SNELL was unaware of any other financial interest appointee maintained.

SNELL could recall no derogatory information regarding appointee and stated he was above reproach in all areas of morals, integrity, honesty, and character. Appointee was described as being in complete control at all times and he had never been seen to lose control of any situation. His

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associates were described of the highest caliber and the only question ever to surface regarding any of them was concerning JOHN STILES, former campaign worker and assistant, who had some domestic problems unrelated to his association with appointee.

Appointee was characterized as basically conservative in his political philosophy but his views were always a matter of record. Some segments of the liberal community such as the American Civil Liberties Union differed with appointee in civil rights issues but appointee was always concerned with the interest of all people. Even on the bussing issue which created some controversy in the district, it appeared appointee was far ahead of his time in his thinking.

SNELL stated appointee is well qualified to fill the position of Vice President of the United States and he would highly endorse him for that post.

A review of financial records for the Ford Committee For Congress under identification number 013692 showed the following contributors making donations over \$500.00:

Committee to reelect GERALD FORD, Post Office Box 2014 Washington, D.C.	\$38,216.61 April 25, 1972
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Drive Political Fund 25 Louisiana Avenue Room 325 Washington, D.C.	\$2,000.00 April 25, 1972
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Railway Clerks Political League, 6300 River Road Rosemont, Illinois 60018	\$500.00 April 25, 1972
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<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 200px; height: 20px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15230	\$2,500.00 April 26, 1972
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<div data-bbox="347 449 810 512" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 30px; width: 285px;"></div> <div data-bbox="347 512 810 546" style="display: inline-block;">Chicago, Illinois 60604</div>	<div data-bbox="907 449 1162 512" style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: top;">\$2,000.00 April 26, 1972</div>
<div data-bbox="347 573 755 636" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 30px; width: 251px;"></div> <div data-bbox="347 636 662 669" style="display: inline-block;">Fairfax, Virginia</div>	<div data-bbox="907 573 1127 636" style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: top;">\$1,000.00 May 11, 1972</div>
<div data-bbox="347 695 755 877" style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: top;">Bankpac General Fund (political committee) 1611 North Kent Street Suite 804 Arlington, Virginia 22209</div>	<div data-bbox="907 695 1219 758" style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: top;">\$2,500.00 September 1, 1972</div>
<div data-bbox="347 905 591 938" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 16px; width: 150px;"></div> <div data-bbox="347 938 591 972" style="display: inline-block;">(businessman)</div>	<div data-bbox="907 905 1239 968" style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: top;">\$500.00 September 11, 1972</div>
<div data-bbox="347 968 794 1001" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 16px; width: 275px;"></div> <div data-bbox="347 1001 774 1056" style="display: inline-block;">Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania 19010</div>	
<div data-bbox="347 1083 711 1178" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 45px; width: 224px;"></div> <div data-bbox="347 1178 829 1241" style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: top;">Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (businesswoman)</div>	<div data-bbox="907 1083 1239 1146" style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: top;">\$500.00 September 11, 1972</div>
<div data-bbox="347 1268 797 1451" style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: top;">Carpenters Legislative Improvement Committee, 101 Constitution Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D. C. 20001 (political committee)</div>	<div data-bbox="907 1268 1242 1331" style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: top;">\$750.00 September 11, 1972</div>
<div data-bbox="347 1478 779 1633" style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: top;">National Republican Congressional Committee (political committee) 412 Congressional Hotel Washington, D. C.</div>	<div data-bbox="907 1478 1190 1541" style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: top;">\$1,000.00 October 5, 1973</div>
<div data-bbox="347 1661 800 1843" style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: top;">Restaurateurs Political Action Committee (political committee) 2219 Builders Building 228 North LaSalle Street Chicago, Illinois 60601</div>	<div data-bbox="907 1661 1190 1724" style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: top;">\$1,000.00 October 5, 1972</div>
<div data-bbox="347 1871 685 1904" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 16px; width: 208px;"></div> <div data-bbox="347 1904 602 1938" style="display: inline-block;">(businessman)</div>	<div data-bbox="907 1871 1211 1934" style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: top;">\$300.00 October 11, 1972</div>
<div data-bbox="347 1938 761 1971" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 16px; width: 255px;"></div> <div data-bbox="347 1971 669 2005" style="display: inline-block;">Lansing, Michigan</div>	

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O.S.P.A.C. 211 East Chicago Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60611 (P.A.C.)	\$1,000.00 October 11, 1972
Effective Citizenship Fund, (political committee) Dayton, Ohio	\$525.00 October 16, 1972
Committee For Action (political committee) Post Office Box 519 Bellevue, Washington	\$500.00 October 16, 1972
[redacted] (businessman) [redacted] Chicago, Illinois 60604	\$1,500.00 July 25, 1972
[redacted] (businessman) [redacted] New York, New York	\$3,000.00 August 3, 1972
[redacted] (businessman) United Airlines O'Hare International Airport Chicago, Illinois 60666	\$500.00 August 3, 1972
[redacted] (businessman) [redacted] Grand Rapids, Michigan 49502	\$2,000.00 August 15, 1972
National Republican Congressional Committee (political committee) Congressional Hotel Washington, D. C.	\$1,000.00 August 21, 1972

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[redacted] 6500.00
(businessman)

[redacted]
Leesburg, Virginia 22015

District 2 85,000.00
Neba-Amc AFL-CIO August 21, 1972
(political committee)
Voluntary Political
Action Fund,
650 Fourth Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11232

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA [REDACTED] on October 16, 1973, at Grand Rapids,
Michigan:

WALTER J. RUSSELL, 1144 Iroquis Drive, SE, Grand
Rapids, an Attorney and Chairman of the Friends of Gerald
Ford Committee provided the following information:

RUSSELL stated he had known Appointee for approxi-
mately 30 years and had been a close friend of Appointee for
approximately 20 years. His relationship was based on both
social and business contacts during that period of time.

In the Fall of 1972, RUSSELL and JOEL V. SOULE,
a Grand Rapids attorney, established the Friends of Gerald
Ford Committee which collected contributions for Appointee's
political expenses in 1972 and 1973. RUSSELL serves as
chairman of this committee and SOULE served as treasurer.
The committee is based at 865 Union Bank Building in Grand
Rapids which is the law office of RUSSELL. Records for the
Friends of Gerald Ford Committee are maintained at RUSSELL's
office and required copies have been filed with the House
of Representatives in Washington, D. C.

A review of contribution records showed the majority
of the contributions to be \$100.00 or less donations from
individual contributors in the Grand Rapids area. The
following contributors provided \$500.00 or more to the Friends
of Gerald Ford Committee:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>
JOHN BENTIA, President Alliance Manufacturing Company Alliance, Ohio	\$500.00	October 20, 1972
[REDACTED] Grand Rapids	Businessman \$1,000.00	October 2, 1972

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>
[redacted] Lawyer New York, New York 10022	\$1,000.00	October 6, 1972
JOSEPH M. SEGAL, President Franklin Mint Company [redacted] Merion, Pennsylvania 19066	\$2,546.01	October 6, 1972
MEBA Political Action Fund 17 Battery Place New York, New York 10004	\$2,500.00	October 11, 1972
National Republican Congressional Committee Congressional Hotel Washington, D. C. 2003	\$900.00	October 11, 1972
Ford For Congress Committee 620 Old Kent Building Grand Rapids, Michigan 49502	\$6,046.64	March 12, 1973
[redacted] Homemaker [redacted] Washington, D. C.	\$500.00	November 3, 1972
Boilermakers- Blacksmiths Legislative Education Program (LEAP) (CAF) 400 First Street, NW Washington, D. C. 20001	\$500.00	October 11, 1972

RUSSELL stated that newspapers have raised the question of possible wrong doing in regard to a \$11,500.00 contribution during Appointee's 1970 campaign. To RUSSELL's knowledge, the entire transaction was perfectly legal but he admitted his information regarding the matter was obtained from newspaper accounts and he had no first hand involvement or knowledge with respect to the money. RUSSELL advised that perhaps the most informed person concerning the questioned

\$11,500.00 was FRANK MEYER, now deceased, the former Administrative Assistant to Appointee.

All of Appointee's financial interest were not known to RUSSELL but he felt that outside the family paint and varnish business in Grand Rapids, Appointee had no noteworthy business or financial involvements. RUSSELL stated that he was unaware of any conflict of interest charges that could be leveled against Appointee and to the contrary RUSSELL recalled that Appointee went out of his way to avoid any conflict. RUSSELL stated on one occasion a constituent had contacted him for information regarding a contact with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and asked for assistance in this matter by having Appointee set up an appointment. RUSSELL stated that Appointee did not wish to become involved in this matter even in such a small way as setting up the appointment or making the contact with IRS and this reflects his attitude in efforts to avoid any conflict of interests.

RUSSELL stated there were few people in the world who could not have derogatory information related about them and Appointee was in that select few. RUSSELL stated even Democratic opponents spoke highly of Appointee and there was absolutely no question about his loyalty, morality, or integrity. Appointee was described as a first rate leader. He never had to push but easily gained the confidence of those he served. RUSSELL related Appointee was popular with all who knew him and he numbered friends and associates in labor, business and political circles in all stations of society throughout the country.

RUSSELL advised newspaper reporters had visited him and he had attempted to recall any possible event, associate or flaw that may be inconsistent with Appointee's nomination as Vice President of the United States. RUSSELL stated even the few things he had heard mentioned during his long association with Appointee were minor. Appointee's wife, BETTY, was previously married and some acquaintances questioned this during the past but there were never any indications that Appointee was anything than a dedicated family man with strong family ties. In the past there had been some associates who had questioned Appointee's friendship with JOHN R. STILES,

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a former campaign manager and assistant to Mr. FORD who once corroborated with Mr. FORD in writing a book. RUSSELL stated STILES had been divorced and had married a woman he chose to describe as a "spitfire" and in connection with that marriage STILES had a run in with the police department following a domestic disturbance. It is RUSSELL's knowledge this is the only association of appointee's that has even had a hint of controversy surrounding him.

RUSSELL related that appointee is never one to conceal his feelings on political issues and he is always willing to state his views. He advised the appointee is a concerned man who weighs his decisions carefully and the views he expresses in public were the views he held in private. RUSSELL stated that although the many elements of the liberal community question his stand in regard to Civil Rights there is never any question of the appointee's concern for minority groups or his fairness in his relationship to them.

RUSSELL stated that he knew of no one in this country more qualified to fill the position of Vice President of the United States than appointee.

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REPUBLICAN PARTY OFFICIALS

The following investigation was conducted by
Special Agent [REDACTED] at Grand Rapids,
Michigan, on October 17, 1973:

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GARY MAURINA, Executive Secretary, Kent County Republican Headquarters, advised that he had read the recent newspaper story in which allegations had been made that during the 1970 Congressional Campaign, GERALD R. FORD had been involved in a questionable transaction concerning campaign funds. He said that the story alluded to the fact that Mr. FORD had made contributions to the Republican National Committee in order to circumvent a Michigan Election Statute, which limited candidates to spend not more than \$10,000.00 on their personal expenses during a campaign. He stated that the story then made reference to the fact that Mr. FORD or his committee had turned over some \$11,000.00 to Republican National Committee and at a later date had received \$12,000.00 from the Republican National Committee which may have appeared to have been an avoidance of the above Michigan law.

MAURINA stated that he had no personal knowledge of this transaction, but that he felt that he could give a logical explanation of the circumstances which occurred during this period. He stated that during the 1970 Congressional Campaign, Mr. FORD would have been making numerous personal appearances on behalf of Republican candidates. He stated that during these appearances, Mr. FORD would receive many donations to his own political campaign. He advised that it was common practice for Mr. FORD to turn over these donations (normally a check) to the Republican National Committee because as House Minority Leader, he was representing the Republican Party at these functions. He said that these checks were normally made payable to the "GERALD R. FORD Election Committee," and that Mr. FORD would endorse them over to the Republican National Committee. He said that apparently the newspaper account was reporting about funds which Mr. FORD had turned over to the Republican National Committee (RNC) due to the above reasons. He advised that there was nothing illegal or even uncommon about this procedure.

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MAURINA stated that it is one of the functions of the Republican National Committee to allocate funds to candidates running for office. He stated that it is his belief that in 1970, a short time period after Mr. FORD had turned over approximately \$11,000.00 to the RNC, Mr FORD had received approximately \$12,000.00 from the RNC, which is not an excessive amount considering Mr. FORD is the House Minority Leader. MAURINA further added that part or all of this amount could be in compensation for travel and other necessary expenses incurred by Mr. FORD while he was representing the Republican National Committee in these appearances as House Minority Leader. These expenses normally are covered by the RNC.

MAURINA said even if Mr. FORD had kept the \$11,000.00 in contributions, it would have been legal under Michigan Election laws, which limit the candidate from spending more than \$10,000.00 on personal expenses, but do not limit what an election committee can spend for a candidate. He said that it is common and accepted practice for all donations to political campaigns, which are made by check to be made payable to the candidate's election committee rather than the candidate personally. He cited Michigan State Annotated (MSA) 6. 1902 as the legal reference to this fact. He said this made this a legitimate transaction.

MAURINA advised that all the records of the above transactions should be maintained by the RNC, Washington, D.C.

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received were designated specifically to Mr. FORD, but would have been received in behalf of all the Republican candidates. He stated contributions not needed for Mr. FORD and other candidates' election campaigns would accordingly be diverted to the Republican National Committee. Mr. MC CLURE stated if a contributor asked that his contribution be designated to a specific candidate's campaign fund it would be asked of the contributor if the contribution could be used for other candidates. He stated to his knowledge it was almost always the case that the contributor agreed to this procedure.

Mr. MC CLURE said he had no recollection of a lump sum amount of \$11,500.00 being sent to the Republican National Committee or any lump sum being later returned from the Committee. He said at any rate this definitely would not have been done in an effort to conceal the names of any individual contributors.

The following is a portion of a newspaper article which appeared in the September 4, 1969, issue of the "Saginaw News", a daily newspaper in Saginaw, Michigan entitled "Jury Quiz Dissolves Mc Clure's Story - Mc Clure Summoned to Testify":

"A federal grand jury probing alleged bribery in high places has questioned a Michigan Republican official about his \$2,000 contribution to a Democrat in last year's Maryland Senate race.

"Harold M. McClure Jr. of Alma, GOP national committeeman from Michigan, told reporters he appeared under subpoena in early July to answer questions about his donation to former Sen. Daniel B. Brewster, D-Md.

"McClure, president of McClure Oil Co. and prominent in the oil industry's current fight to preserve its tax status, said he spent 'less than an hour or two' before the federal panel in Baltimore.

"The grand jury is reportedly investigating charges that Brewster and Sen. Russell B. Long, D-La., the Senate's powerful former assistant majority leader, took money from sources seeking to influence legislation and a huge government construction contract.

"McClure, under questioning by reporters, also acknowledged that the FBI earlier this year inspected his records in Alma.

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"He said an agent was interested in the \$2,000 check made out to cash and dated Sept. 18, 1968. It was this check, drawn on Mc Clure's personal account, that ended up in Brewster's campaign kitty in October of 1968.

"At the time, McClure said the check was intended for a Texas oil man and was in part payment to acquire land for a joint oil venture. He claimed the Texan sent the check to Brewster.

"That story dissolved yesterday when Sen. Long's administrative aide Robert E. Hunter, disclosed that McClure gave the check to Sen. Long to help a pro-oil industry candidate for the Senate.

"In September of 1968, Hunter related, McClure called on the phone 'to tell me he had a \$2,000 check made out to "cash" and that he would leave it for me at the desk of the Mayflower Hotel'.

"Hunter later picked up the check and it subsequently was turned over to Brewster, who at the time was Maryland's senior senator.

"When confronted with Hunter's account McClure said it was substantially accurate, with one exception. McClure said he had presumed the money would go to a Republican, possibly Sen. William B. Saxbe, R-Ohio. McClure charged off the entire situation as due to a mix-up.

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"(An aide to Saxbe said last night he had never heard of McClure and that a \$2,000 donation would be 'rather unusual'. Saxbe was vacationing in northern Michigan and couldn't be reached for comment.)"

On July 23, 1969, at Alma, Michigan. HAROLD MC CLURE, JR., [REDACTED] Michigan, was contacted at the Gratiot County Airport near Alma, Michigan, by SA [REDACTED] of the FBI, and was advised that he was being contacted regarding a \$2,000.00 check issued by him in 1969 to the Democratic Committee of Maryland. He stated he remembers a check issued by him which apparently ended up as a contribution to the Democratic Committee of Maryland. He stated sometime last fall he issued a personal check for \$2,000 payable to cash, which he believes was issued on his personal account at the Bank of Alma, Alma, Michigan. The check was issued to cash and the payee was not left blank. He regularly issues checks to cash or even pays in currency when making advances on oil and gas deals. He said this particular check was issued by him to "clean up an oil and gas deal". When asked to explain what "clean up an oil and gas deal" meant, he stated this check was issued to a certain person as an advance payment to this person as this person was acting as a broker in setting up an oil and gas lease acquisition for him in Texas.

He said that sometime after the check was issued, he received telephone calls from Washington, D. C., correspondents of two Michigan newspapers. These correspondents asked him if he had made a contribution to a Maryland Democratic Senatorial candidate. He does not remember the candidate's name, but the candidate was the opponent who ran against **MATHIAS** in Maryland. He said the correspondents advised him that the records of the Secretary of State showed MC CLURE as making a contribution to either the candidate or to the Democratic Central Committee.

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SPA/pjw -4

He said he then searched his records and determined that the above-mentioned two thousand dollar check was endorsed by the Democratic Committee of Maryland. He said he then contacted the person to whom he had issued this check and this person said the check had been used as a political contribution and was spent for paying dinner tickets or something like that. MC CLURE said the matter has been straightened out and there was no wrongdoing involved.

MC CLURE said he made no other such contributions and that this matter was embarrassing to him as he was a member of the Republican Central Committee.

In accordance with a subpoena issued to him, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] furnished information on July 29, 1969, regarding an account at [REDACTED], in the name of [REDACTED], Account Number [REDACTED], for the period June 1, 1968 through December 31, 1968. The following two checks of interest were noted:

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Check Number 4497, dated September 18, 1968, payable to Cash; in the amount of \$2,000.00. This check bears the first endorsement of WILLIAM WILSON, Treasurer, for deposit only, Democratic State Central Committee. This check bears a second endorsement of Pay any bank, the Equitable Trust Company, Baltimore, Maryland. On the face of this check, above the date, is other writing which is not legible on the microfilm or the photocopy of the check. There appears to be other stamped endorsements on the reverse side of this check but these are not legible.

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Check number 4345, dated October 25, 1968, payable to Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, in the amount of \$500.00. This check bears the first endorsement of For Deposit Demo. Sen. Campaign Committee and under this are other words which are not legible. Also on this check are other endorsements which are not legible, except the words Fed. Res. Bk. Detroit appear.

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The following investigation was conducted by SA
[redacted] on October 17, 1973, at Grand Rapids,
Michigan:

Mr. PHILIP BUCHEN, Attorney, 740 Old Kent Bank Building, Grand Rapids, was contacted and advised that he has known appointee, GERALD FORD, for over 30 years and for a brief time following Mr. FORD's graduation from Yale University, they worked as law partners in Grand Rapids. Appointee subsequently went to the United States Congress.

Mr. BUCHEN advised that he considers appointee to be eminently qualified for any position of trust and confidence with the United States Government. He knows of no information in Mr. FORD's background of a derogatory nature. He considers appointee's character, loyalty and reputation "to be beyond reproach".

He advised that appointee is well thought of by his colleagues in the field of law and his business ethics are considered impeccable.

Appointee is considered to be a political moderate and he is known to favor strict enforcement of all civil rights laws.

Mr. BUCHEN is aware of no problem in connection with appointee's financial background and he considers Mr. FORD to be completely competent and mature in his financial dealings.

Mr. BUCHEN advised that he is appointee's personal attorney and that he handles Mr. FORD's personal matters. He knows nothing about campaign irregularities or any charges relating thereto outside of what he has read in the newspaper. Mr. BUCHEN recalls reading an article about an \$11,500.00 campaign irregularity; however, he has no information to substantiate the charge, nor has Mr. FORD ever discussed this problem with him. Mr. BUCHEN stated that the statute cited in the newspaper to which this alleged irregularity pertained is not clear and he is not sure whether or not \$10,000.00 would have been Mr. FORD's campaign expenditure limit.

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Mr. BUCHEN advised that he does not know who the major contributors were to any of Mr. FORD's campaigns. He does not know whether or not Mr. FORD has a campaign attorney; however, he stated that Mr. FORD is a lawyer and would probably handle any problems arising out of campaign finances himself.

Mr. BUCHEN is not familiar with [redacted] or with any \$38,000.00 campaign irregularity and he reiterated that he knows very little about Mr. FORD's campaign finances.

Mr. BUCHEN is not familiar with the law or policies relating to the Republican National Committee or Republican Congressional Campaign Committee; nor is he acquainted with any of Mr. FORD's contacts on those committees. He advised that all questions relating to the Republican committees would be handled in Washington, D.C. by Mr. FORD's contacts and associates in that city.

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PHILIP BUCHEN, Attorney, Grand Rapids, Michigan furnished the following copy of the Michigan Election Law, pertaining to expenses of candidates, to SA [redacted] on October 18, 1973:

This was true even with respect to the fee paid for precincts wherein ballots were not actually retallied, if the

ballot boxes were produced and examined as petitioned. Op Atty Gen, April 10, 1935.

CHAPTER XXXIV

CAMPAIGN EXPENSES

§ 6.1901 Definitions.] SEC. 901. Terms used in this chapter shall be used as follows, unless other meaning is clearly apparent from the language or context, or unless such construction is inconsistent with the manifest intent of the law:

1. "Candidate" shall apply to any person whose name is printed on an official ballot for public office or whose name has been presented for public office, with his consent, for nomination or election;

2. "Political committee" or "committee" shall apply to every combination of 2 or more persons who shall aid or promote the success or defeat of a candidate, or a political party or principle or measure; and

3. "Public office" shall apply to any national, state, county or city ward, village or township office which is filled by the voters of this state, as well as to the office of presidential elector and United States senator.

(CL '48, § 168.901.)

History.

This section is derived from Pub Acts 1925, No. 351, Part V, c 2, § 19 (former § 6.639).

1-10. [Reserved for use in future supplementation.]

11. Candidate.

The term "candidate" in an election law or city charter provision, when not defined therein, is generally used in its ordinary and customary sense to mean one who is selected by others as a contestant for an office as well as one who seeks an office, and hence includes a participant in a primary election as well as one who runs in a regular election. City of Grand Rapids v. Harper, 32 Mich App 324.

Delegate to county convention is not a "candidate." Op Atty Gen, 1933-1934, p 198.

12. Political committee.

Established agency or organization, which is unincorporated and consists of two or more persons, and which combination aids and promotes the success or defeat of a state proposal, constitutes political committee as defined in this section. Op Atty Gen, November 8, 1961, No. 3610.

Committees formed to support or oppose propositions submitted in local elections are political committees within meaning of corrupt practices act. Op Atty Gen, August 6, 1968, No. 4622.

Legal periodicals.

Union political involvement and reform of campaign financing regulation, Prospectus, Vol 2, No. 2, p 347.

ALR note.

Constitutionality of statute relating to power of committee or officials of political party, 62 ALR 924.

§ 6.1902 Expenses of candidates, limit.] SEC. 902. No sums of money shall be paid and no expenses authorized or incurred by or on behalf of any candidate to be paid by him in order to secure or aid in securing his nomination to any public office or his position in this state in excess of the amount computed at the rate of [\$40.00] for each 1,000 votes cast at the general November election in the last preceding presidential year for the office of governor in the state or political subdivision thereof in which he is a candidate for nomination: Provided, That no candidate shall be restricted to less than 25% of 1

year's compensation, nor in any case to less than \$100.00 in his campaign for such nomination. No sums of money shall be paid and no expenses authorized or incurred by or on behalf of any candidate who has received the nomination to any public office or position in this state in excess of the amount to which expenditures for his nomination to such office or position are limited under the provisions of this section. No sum of money shall be paid and no expenses authorized or incurred by or on behalf of any candidate contrary to the provisions of this act.

(CL '48, § 168.902.)

History.

As amended by Pub Acts 1958, No. 28, ind eff April 3.

This section, as originally enacted, was derived from Pub Acts 1925, No. 351, Part V, c 2, § 1, as amended (former § 6.621).

1-10. [Reserved for use in future supplementation.]

11. Title of prior act.

Public Acts 1913, No. 109, entitled "An act to regulate and limit nomination expenses; to define and prevent corrupt and illegal practices in nominations and elections; to secure and protect the purity of the ballot, and to require accounts of nomination and election expenses to be filed, and providing penalties for the violation of this act" was not invalid under Const 1908, art V, § 21, as containing more than one object which was not expressed in its title, because it prohibited the making of contributions for campaign purposes by corporations. *People v. Gansley*, 191 Mich 357.

12. Constitutionality.

Public Acts 1913, No. 109, regulating and limiting nomination and election expenses and forbidding contributions for election expenses by corporations was not unconstitutional as unduly and unreasonably restraining the political activities of the people. *People v. Gansley*, 191 Mich 357.

13. Construction in general.

Public Acts 1913, No. 109, regulating nomination and election expenses and requiring accounts thereof was a remedial statute and must be construed to carry out the legislative intent. *People v. Gansley*, 191 Mich 357.

Depending upon which act limits campaign expenditures of congressional candidate to smaller amount, this section or the Federal Corrupt Practices Act governs as to limitations on such expenditures. Op Atty Gen, October 14, 1958, No. 3351.

14. Congressional primaries.

Expenditures of congressional candidates in primary election are limited by this section, and the maximum allowable expenditures of such candidates in general election are limited by the Federal Corrupt Practices Act. Op Atty Gen, January 16, 1957, No. 2829.

ALR notes.

Constitutionality of Corrupt Practices Acts, 69 ALR 377.

Construction and application of statute regarding statement by candidate as to his expenses, or his interest in, or the financial value of publicity through, newspapers or other publicity sources, 103 ALR 1424.

Digest reference.

See Callaghan's Mich Dig, Elections, § 54.

§ 6.1903 Treasurer of political committee; appointment, duties.] SEC. 903. Every political committee shall appoint a treasurer who shall receive, keep and disburse all sums of money which may be collected or received by such committee or any of its members for election expenses; and unless such treasurer is first appointed it shall be unlawful for a political committee or any of its members to collect, receive or disburse money for any such purpose.

(CL '48, § 168.903.)

History.

This section is derived from Pub Acts 1925, No. 351, Part V, c 2, § 2 (former § 6.622).

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 10/19/73

GORDON VANDER TILL, Administrative Assistant to Congressman GERALD R. FORD, 110 Michigan Avenue, Northwest, advised that he became Administrative Assistant to Mr. FORD following the death of FRANK MEYER in August, 1972. Mr. MEYER had been the Administrative Assistant to Mr. FORD for 18 years. Mr. VANDER TILL said that while he was generally familiar with the Congressman's campaign of 1970, he was not aware of any issue that was raised concerning the rental of campaign space in Grand Rapids in 1970. Space was obtained from Junior Achievement, Inc., on the ground floor at Division and Fulton Streets through JIM DIELEMA, Executive Director of Junior Achievement. He said if any problem had occurred concerning this rental space, Mr. DIELEMA would undoubtedly be aware of it.

Mr. VANDER TILL said he was aware of an issue that was raised concerning the transfer of \$11,500 from the Congressman's campaign to the Republican National Committee, Washington, D.C., in 1970. Mr. VANDER TILL stated that the Congressman and the campaign committee made every effort to follow the law in connection with campaign expenses and the State of Michigan law pertaining to the limitations on campaign expenses was discussed with Attorney WALTER RUSSELL, Grand Rapids.

The Michigan law limited expenses to an amount computed at the rate of \$40 for every 1,000 votes cast for the office of governor at the general November election in the last preceding presidential year. This computation generally worked out to a limitation between \$10,000-\$12,000. The statute used the words "by him" when referring to expenses to be paid and the opinion was rendered that the words "by him" referred to the candidates' funds and not to any funds of a campaign committee. This opinion was given by Mr. RUSSELL after a review of the Michigan statute and the State Attorney General's opinions.

Interviewed on 10/17/73 at Grand Rapids, Michigan File # Detroit 161-1355

by SA (A) ROBERT P. KEEHAN/fln Date dictated 10/19/73

DE 161-1355
CDM/srd - 1

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA [REDACTED] on October 17, 1973, at Lansing,
Michigan:

DORIS GARRELL advised she is the Executive Assistant to the Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Michigan. She advised that she formerly was a staff reporter for the "Herald Press", a defunct newspaper previously published in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She advised that she also was the Bureau Chief in Grand Rapids for the "Free Press" covering Western Michigan, and employed as a reporter for WOOD-TV, Grand Rapids.

DORIS GARRELL stated she has personally known GERALD R. FORD since his first campaign in 1948. She said she could remember no derogatory information regarding Mr. FORD, except for two events:

(1) Mr. FORD was a Director of the Old Kent Bank in Grand Rapids and subsequently resigned because of a conflict of interest.

(2) While she was employed at WOOD-TV, Grand Rapids, and during the 1970 campaign, she and other reporters attempted to resolve the question as to who was paying rental for the campaign office space used by Mr. FORD. She stated to the best of her knowledge, this issue has never been satisfactorily resolved and she stated she had no further personal knowledge regarding this incident.

IAB:cgp -1
DE 161-1355

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted] on October 18, 1973, at Grand Rapids, Michigan:

[redacted], Junior Achievement, (JA) 12 Division, Grand Rapids, Michigan, advised that he was not employed by JA in 1970, however, a review of JA financial records for that year indicates that the FORD For Congress Committee paid \$900.00 to JA as rental for the office space located at the corner of Fulton and Division, Grand Rapids, Michigan. [redacted] further advised that [redacted] actually handled this transaction.

[redacted] Junior Achievement, 12 Division, Grand Rapids, Michigan, advised that she was employed by JA in 1970 and a review by her of JA records indicates that on August 11, 1970, she received \$900.00 from the FORD For Congress Committee which was paid as rental for the office space located at the corner of Division and Fulton, Grand Rapids, Michigan. [redacted] further advised that she could not remember anything unusual about the transaction and she recalls of no publicity including adverse publicity surrounding this rental.

[redacted] advised that [redacted] is no longer employed by JA.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE WASHINGTON FIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 10-20-73	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10-18-73 / 10-20-73
TITLE OF CASE GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, aka Gerald Rudolph Ford, Jr., Leslie King, Jr.		REPORT MADE BY SA [REDACTED]	TYPED BY rst
		CHARACTER OF CASE SPI ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 02-25-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls	

REFERENCES: WFO report of SA [REDACTED], 10-18-73.
Detroit teletypes, 10-18-73 and 10-19-73.
Alexandria teletypes, 10-18-73 and 10-19-73.
Bureau teletype, 10-19-73.

- P -

LEADS:

WASHINGTON FIELD -

(1) Will interview [REDACTED]

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
APPROVED <i>M/SCS</i>						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES MADE: 6- Bureau (161-9896) (Enc. 60) 1- WFO (161-9324)						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations	
Agency	161-9896						
Request Recd.							
Date Fwd.							
How Fwd.							
By							

COVER PAGE

WFO 161-9324

- (2) Will obtain comments from Rep. ANDERSON when available.
- (3) Will interview FRANK E. FITZSIMMONS, International Union of Teamsters, when available.
- (4) Will report results of checks of records of Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives.
- (5) Will review records pertaining to private bills introduced by FORD.
- (6) Will re-interview for additional comments.

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COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-25-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

Copy to:

Report of: [REDACTED]
Date: October 20, 1973
Field Office File #: 161-9324
Title: GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

Office: Washington, D.C.

Bureau File #: 161-9896

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis: Appointee re-interviewed, providing additional personal information as set forth. Interviews of Congressman KENNETH J. GRAY and [REDACTED] set forth. Nothing unfavorable. No record for appointee at Dept. of Interior, Office of Security.

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ENCLOSURES:

One (1) copy signed release from appointee to Sergeant at Arms, House of Representatives, dated October 19, 1973.

One (1) copy signed release from appointee to Chairman, House Republican Congressional Campaign Committee, dated October 19, 1973.

One (1) copy signed release from appointee to Executive Director, Republican Congressional Committee, dated October 19, 1973.

One (1) copy signed release from appointee to Chairman, Republican National Committee, dated October 19, 1973.

WFO 161-9324

One (1) copy signed release from appointee to []
[] regarding account of
[], dated October 19, 1973.

One (1) copy signed release from appointee to []
[] regarding []
[] account, dated October 19, 1973.

One (1) copy signed release from [] to
[] dated October 19, 1973.

One (1) copy partial summary of private bill activities
relating to [].

One (1) copy REPORT ON EXAMINATION OF AUDITORS' REPORTS
AND ACCOUNTS pertaining to HARRY CONOVER.

One (1) copy STATEMENT OF TENTATIVE COMPUTATIONS per-
taining to paid-in retirement as of October 1, 1973.

WFO 161-9324

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INTERVIEW OF THE APPOINTEE

The appointee, Representative GERALD R. FORD, volunteered the following information to SA [REDACTED], on October 19, 1973:

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At the outset Representative FORD executed releases for information on file relating to finances in the conduct of his office at the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, U.S. House of Representatives, the House Republican Congressional Campaign Committee, and the Republican National Committee. In addition he executed an authorization for review of financial data relating to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on file at [REDACTED] Alexandria, Virginia. These releases authorize FBI review of the appointee's finances and those of [REDACTED]

Representative FORD advised [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], during the past [REDACTED] Representative FORD agreed that for the purpose of completeness of this background information that releases should be obtained from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Representative FORD advised he has no personal knowledge of [REDACTED] an Italian cheese maker, for whom he introduced private relief bill H.R. 5291 on January 29, 1969, in which he petitioned to enable [REDACTED], an Italian alien, to remain in the United States. He acknowledged, however, that he is acquainted with Mr. FRANK TERRANOVA, President of the F. and A. Cheese Corporation

WFO 161-9324

2

Grand Rapids, Michigan. His relationship with TERRANOVA is casual. Representative FORD recalls Mr. TERRANOVA as the employer of [REDACTED] in 1969 and that Mr. TERRANOVA sought the appointee's aid in affording permanent residence status for [REDACTED]. He is not certain whether Mr. TERRANOVA ever had appeared in person at Mr. FORD's Capitol Office in this matter. He said that the negotiation in behalf of [REDACTED] had been handled entirely by the appointee's administrative assistant, FRANK MEYER (deceased). Enclosed is a photostatic copy of the appointee's file regarding [REDACTED].

Additional Employments

William Skougis Restaurant
Grand Rapids, Michigan

During the period 1928 to 1930, when the appointee was a high school student at Grand Rapids, he had part-time employment with William Skougis, consisting of waiting on tables and kitchen work. This restaurant is no longer in existence, however, MARY SKOUGIS resides with WILLIAM SKOUGIS at 918 Frederick Northwest, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Ford Paint and Varnish Company

Representative FORD had summer employment during the period 1929 to 1934 as an employee of his father's paint company.

Alex Demar, Concessionaire
Romona Amusement Park
Grand Rapids, Michigan

During the summer of 1933 the appointee was an employee of Alex Demar, a concessionaire, at the former Romona Amusement Park. Mr. DEMAR resides at 23 South College Street, Southeast, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

University Hospital
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Representative FORD had been employed from the Fall of 1931 to June, 1932, as a waiter in the Intern Dining Hall and Nurses Residence. He is unable to recall his immediate supervisor.

Delta Kappa Epsilon
Dining Hall
University of Michigan

The appointee had been employed as a dining hall attendant and house manager of Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity from September, 1932, to June, 1934; and from September, 1935, to June, 1935, when he graduated from the University of Michigan.

Conover Model Agency
New York City, New York

While a student at Yale University Law School in 1939 Representative FORD met HARRY CONOVER through mutual friends in New York City. Mr. CONOVER at that time was a male photographic model and sought financial assistance in the establishment of a model agency in New York City. Representative FORD and HARRY CONOVER established a partnership in January, 1940, in which FORD contributed \$1,000 and HARRY CONOVER (deceased) agreed to furnish male and female talent and his expertise in the modeling field. There were no other members of this partnership. The partnership continued until March 31, 1944, when it was dissolved by mutual agreement between the appointee and HARRY CONOVER, at which time an auditor's report was compiled and Representative FORD received his original investment of \$1,000 plus an additional \$5,000 which latter figure represented an appreciation in the appointee's original investment.

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Representative FORD had no direct participation in the partnership business other than his original contribution of \$1,000. He noted he entered the United States Navy in February, 1942, and had no direct contact with HARRY CONOVER for approximately one and one half years. During this time he received nominal profits from the corporation consisting of a total of no more than \$400. He expected more of a return on his investment and he began to suspect that HARRY CONOVER was not being truthful in his partnership financial reports. In late 1943 Representative FORD contacted DAVID WEINSTEIN, an attorney at 9 East 40th Street, New York City, and requested an audit of the partnership for the purpose of dissolving his relationship with CONOVER. Representative FORD had no subsequent contact with CONOVER following the partnership dissolution. Attached to this report is the final audit of the foregoing partnership dated June 27, 1944.

WFO 161-9324

RTT/eml

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INTERVIEW OF THE APPOINTEE

The appointee, Representative GERALD R. FORD, furnished the following information to SA RICHARD T. TAYLOR, JR., on October 20, 1973:

The appointee furnished a copy of his paid in retirement contribution, the monies for which are in the possession of the Sergeant at Arms, U.S. House of Representatives. This statement is an attachment to this report.

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Gratuitous Air Transportation

Representative FORD acknowledged that he has, from time to time, received air transportation via various executive jet aircraft between Washington, D.C., and his district in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He views this as a normal occurrence among congressmen who, because of commercial airline limitations, find it difficult to obtain expeditious transportation to their various districts such as in the instances described below. Representative FORD stressed that no "quid pro quo" had been offered, received, or discussed as a result of the Gratuitous Transportation. He also noted that he does not maintain any file which would indicate the frequency of such travel nor the identity of the donors of this travel.

Bissell Corporation

During the past year Representative FORD has made one or two trips between Washington, D.C., and Detroit, Michigan, aboard corporate jets of the Bissell Corporation. On these occasions Representative FORD had been unable to obtain commercial transportation to his district. He noted Bissell Corporation is one of the large manufacturing corporations at Grand Rapids, Michigan, and employs in excess of 2,500 employees. He sees no inconsistency in his acceptance of transportation since Bissell Corporation makes numerous flights between Washington, D.C., and Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Amway Products

Within the past year Representative FORD has accepted three or four round trip passages to Grand Rapids, Michigan, via Detroit, Michigan, at the invitation of Mr. VAN ANDEL and Mr. DE VOSS, founders and executives of the Amway Products Corporation. He said there is an IRS regulation which requires certain tax contribution in behalf of persons receiving free transportation of a business jet. In instances involving the Amway Jet there frequently had been extra space aboard the craft for which IRS payments had already been made. Representative FORD advised Mr. VAN ANDEL and Mr. DE VOSS will have complete details regarding Mr. FORD's transportation aboard this aircraft.

Lear Siegler, Inc.

Representative FORD acknowledged he has utilized aircraft of Lear Siegler on one or two occasions between Grand Rapids and Detroit, Michigan to enable him to meet commercial flights from Detroit, Michigan, to Washington, D.C., when other transportation was not available to him. This transportation was afforded the appointee by Corporate

WFO 161-9324

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Vice President RON PAOLUCCI who has details concerning the frequency of Representative FORD's travels.

Northern Air Service

Representative FORD has been a long time personal friend of [REDACTED] an employee of the Northern Air Service, an executive aircraft service at Detroit. He said she has full information as to the identity of executives of Bissell Corporation who have made their executive aircraft available to him. He noted she has also made travel arrangements with the Bissell Aircraft in his behalf. He also recalled he had personally paid for passage aboard a jet of the Northern Air Service on three or four occasions for travel between Detroit and Grand Rapids, Michigan.

1972 Travel to Mainland China

Representative FORD recalled he had been a member of an official U.S. Delegation to Mainland, China, in June or July, 1972. Included in his group were Representative HALE BOGGS (Louisiana) (deceased); Dr. FREEMAN CARY, attending physician; U.S. Capitol, ROBERT T. HARTMANN, Minority Sergeant at Arms of the House and Legislative Assistant to Representative FORD; and BRYCE HARLOW, former member of the personal staff of President RICHARD M. NIXON and now counsellor to the President. Previous to the time of the travel BRYCE HARLOW had returned to civilian life and resumed his former post as Director of Government Relations of the Proctor and Gamble Company. Mr. HARLOW made the trip as a guest of the appointee and as a private citizen.

The appointee advised he and the foregoing remained in daily contact throughout their travel in Mainland China. Representative FORD does not recall ever having discussed potential business opportunities

by private firms during their travel in Mainland China although these possibilities have been frequently mentioned in the press as a result of the resumption of diplomatic recognition between the United States and Red China. Specifically, he does not recall ever discussing with any one the possibility that he may enter into any agreement with private interests in the establishment of trade with Red China.

During this point in the interview Representative FORD's legislative assistant, ROBERT T. HARTMANN, entered Representative FORD's office whereupon he asked Mr. HARTMANN whether he had heard any rumors to the effect that Representative FORD had any interest or potential interest in establishing a business relationship with any exporting or importing firm doing business with Red China. Mr. HARTMANN recalled that on or about July 6 or 7, 1972, shortly following their return from the China trip Mr. HARTMANN received a telephone call from [redacted] in which [redacted] alleged that he had heard rumors to the effect that Mr. HARTMANN had discussed the establishment of a business relationship between him, HARTMANN, and unidentified business men which would seek exclusive franchise and license arrangements with Red China. [redacted] said he had heard that Mr. HARTMANN had been "talking a great deal about this sort of thing." Mr. HARTMANN said he denied having any conversation along this line and he instructed [redacted] to determine more particulars concerning this allegation.

On one or two days following [redacted] telephone call to Mr. HARTMANN, [redacted] advised him that he had been mistaken about the foregoing allegations and [redacted] instructed Mr. HARTMANN to "forget about it". Mr. HARTMANN said there has been no additional conversation between him and [redacted] concerning the Red China private trade possibilities. Mr. HARTMANN advised Representative FORD that he did not discuss [redacted] telephone call with Mr. FORD since the subsequent call by [redacted] indicated that Mr. [redacted] had been misinformed.

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Upon hearing Mr. HARTMANN's account of his conversation with [REDACTED], Representative FORD reaffirmed that this account is the first time he had ever heard of the foregoing allegation. Representative FORD views any allegation inferring a desire by him or any other members of his staff to receive personal gain from official duties as being potentially embarrassing to Representative FORD. He also advised Mr. HARTMANN that he exercised questionable judgment in not advising him of the telephone calls of [REDACTED].

Former Representative WALTER BARING

In connection with trade possibilities with Red China, Representative FORD advised that former Representative BARING (Nevada) had visited Representative FORD's office within the past month in company with Representative BARING's former administrative assistant, GERALD SCHAFFER. Representative BARING and SCHAFFER are law partners in Reno, Nevada, and are presently representing [REDACTED].

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Representative BARING advised his client had been unsuccessful in obtaining an entrance visa to Canton, China, where an international trade fair is about to get under way. Representative BARING asked Representative FORD for his assistance in contacting the Chinese Peoples Republic Legation for the purpose of obtaining a visa for [REDACTED]. Representative FORD said he believes he had called the Red Chinese Delegation in Washington, D.C., and wrote a letter of introduction in Representative BARING's behalf to the delegation.

Representative FORD views his courtesy to Representative BARING as being customary and he attaches no significance between this act and the foregoing allegation of [REDACTED].

WFO 161-9324

RTT/eml

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Subcommittee on Immigration and
Naturalization
U.S. Senate

DRURY H. BLAIR, Professional Staff Member,
Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization, furnished
the following information to SA RICHARD T. TAYLOR, JR.,
on October 19, 1973:

Mr. BLAIR's files contain no reference indicating
the appointee, Representative FORD, had co-sponsored any
private bills with any member of the U.S. Senate. These
files indicate, however, that Senator WILLIAM PROXMIRE
(Wisconsin) had submitted a private bill in the 91st
Congress on November 4, 1969, in behalf of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (S 3105). No action was taken by the Subcommittee
on this bill and the bill expired on December 31, 1970 at
the conclusion of the 91st Congress. On January 26, 1970,
Senator PROXMIRE reintroduced a bill in behalf of [REDACTED]
at the beginning of the 92nd Congress (S 226). On July 20,
1971, the Senate Committee on the Judiciary ruled that the
bill contained insufficient equity to enable [REDACTED] to
remain in the United States. His trade as a cheese
maker was not deemed to be one that is in short supply in
the United States. The existing Italian immigration
quota at that time provided no visas for permanent residency
and there would be none in the foreseeable future. The file
indicated [REDACTED] departed the United States on February 13,
1972.

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Particulars relating to Senate activity in behalf
of [REDACTED] are contained in the enclosed attachment received
from Representative FORD.

WFO 161-9324

RTT:jeg

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On October 18, 1973, Representative KENNETH J. GRAY (Illinois), advised SA RICHARD T. TAYLOR, JR., he has known the appointee, Representative GERALD R. FORD, since November, 1954, on a political basis. He has had occasional differences in political philosophy with the appointee, but never has had any question or doubt concerning his political, personal, or professional integrity. As a result of his contacts with the appointee and his observation of him, Representative Gray is prepared to vote for the appointee's confirmation when the nomination is presented to the House of Representatives.

Representative GRAY recalled he had written a letter to the Department of Justice and to the United States Attorney in East St. Louis, Illinois, in 1970, in connection with an FBI investigation being conducted at that time concerning Representative GRAY and other persons in Carbondale, Illinois. Included in this letter were references to Representative FORD which inferred Representative FORD had been instrumental in obtaining funds for the purchase of land for the construction of a Federal building in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Representative GRAY had been under investigation for similar activity in obtaining Federal funds for construction in his district at Carbondale, Illinois. He had been disturbed that Representative FORD's activity resulted in the allocation of funds for the Grand Rapids project in a short time amounting to a few weeks while the Carbondale project dragged on for a number of years. Representative GRAY deemed the disparity in time between the two projects as being unfair to him.

Representative GRAY is aware that Representatives frequently make calls in behalf of constituents to various Governmental agencies for the purpose of expediting projects. At the time of Representative FORD's activity in behalf of the Grand Rapids project, Representative GRAY had been Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, which sub-committee has overview responsibilities of projects such as the Grand Rapids and Carbondale projects, and no official notice of Representative FORD's activities was taken by the Sub-Committee as to Representative FORD's conduct in behalf of his constituents.

WFO 161-9324

RTT:jeg

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He has had no subsequent correspondence with the Department of Justice concerning Representative FORD's activity, and he does not consider it as having been illegal.

Representative GRAY knows of no unfavorable information concerning the appointee's character, associates, reputation, or loyalty. He knows of nothing in his background which may be considered as a bar to his confirmation.

WFO 161-9324
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The following investigation was conducted by SA []
[] at Washington, D.C.

On October 19, 1973, [] Washington Bureau Reporter for "The New York Times" was interviewed at his office, 1920 L Street, N.W., Suite 800, Washington, D.C. WALSH furnished the following information concerning GERALD R. FORD:

[] stated that he had received information from [] a high ranking official in the state's insurance office, concerning EDWARD FREY. [] stated that this information pertained to charging excessive interest rates by the Union Bank in Grand Rapids, Michigan. FREY is President of the Union Bank. [] had informed [] that there may be some connection between this excessive interest rate and FORD, since FREY and FORD were close friends.

[] advised that he looked into this matter, and the only connection that was found between FORD and Union Bank is the fact that FORD and FREY are friends and old fraternity brothers. [] stated that he uncovered no information which led to a conclusion that exorbitant interest rates were being charged by the Union Bank in Grand Rapids.

He said that to his knowledge, there was only one allegation and that was that Union Bank was obtaining insurance for mobile home owners on their mobile homes, and that in some way, this generated excessive interest rates. This allegation was never proven, and [] dropped his inquiry due to the fact that there was no truth in the allegation, and that FORD had absolutely no knowledge or interest in the Union Bank.

[] did advise that he did have information that could be of interest to the FBI in its inquiry concerning FORD. [] stated that FORD and CARL ALBERT had visited Red China during 1972. Upon returning from Red China, apparently FORD had contacted two individuals on the West Coast. FORD's meeting with these individuals was apparently for the reason to set up an imports and distribution company that would market items from Red China. [] advised that the two individuals were [] of San Diego, California, office telephone

WFO 161-9324

JSR:lkb

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number [] home telephone number []
and [] Los Angeles, California, office telephone
number [] home telephone number []

[] advised that he had interviewed both [] and []
[] but they furnished very little information concerning
FORD.

[] is a []
a food processing company and a division of []
Company.

Apparently FORD had met with both [] and []
to discuss the possibilities of exclusive distributorships of
products, namely, foods. [] stated that apparently FORD's
interest would be well hidden in this matter.

[] had contacted [] concerning this distri-
butorship last February in Hawaii. Both [] and []
were said to have thought the idea of an exclusive distribu-
torship with Red China products would be profitable, since
FORD was behind this.

[] stated that after February, [] had not
heard any more about this venture.

[] advised that [] and [] are [].

[] secured the above information from a contact
with []. [] stated that [] had contacted him and
voluntarily furnished this information.

WFO 161-9324

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On October 19, 1973, [REDACTED], Secretary to CYRIL BRICKFIELD, Legislative Council, American Association for Retired Persons, Washington, D.C., advised that JOHN B. MARTIN is a consultant with the Association and that he is presently on vacation on a Mediterranean cruise and not due to return to the Washington, D.C., area until November 1, 1973.

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Investigation on October 19, 1973, at the offices of the Detroit News, National Press Building, Washington, D.C., revealed that BLAIR MOODY, formerly Washington Correspondent for the Detroit News, is deceased.

WFO 161-9324

RST/eml

1

Department of the Interior/Office of Security

On October 19, 1973, SA [REDACTED],
caused a search to be made of the files of the Department
of the Interior, National Parks Service, Office of Security,
and was advised that no record was found identifiable with
the appointee.

GERALD R. FORD
FIFTH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

MICHIGAN OFFICE
720 FEDERAL BUILDING
110 MICHIGAN NW
GRAND RAPIDS 49502

Congress of the United States
Office of the Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

October 19, 1973

Mr. Kenneth Harding
Sergeant at Arms
House of Representatives
United States Capitol
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Harding:

I hereby authorize Special Agent Carl Broden of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to have access to and examine my salary account, data relating to my loan account, and my checking account since January 1, 1963. This authorization includes any transactions on records relating to the above which may be on file with the National Bank of Washington.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

GRF:fd

GERALD R. FORD
5TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

MICHIGAN OFFICE:
720 FEDERAL BUILDING
110 MICHIGAN NW
GRAND RAPIDS 49502

Congress of the United States
Office of the Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

October 19, 1973

Honorable Robert H. Michel
Chairman, House Republican
Congressional Campaign Committee
Room 2112 Rayburn Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Please authorize the bearer, a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to examine any and all records which may be on file with the Committee that relate to me.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

GRF:fd

cc: John T. Calkins

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DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

.D.R. FORD
TRICT, MICHIGAN

MICHIGAN OFFICE:
720 FEDERAL BUILDING
110 MICHIGAN NW
GRAND RAPIDS 49502

Congress of the United States
Office of the Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

October 19, 1973

Mr. John T. Calkins
Executive Director
Republican Congressional Committee
Washington, D. C.

Dear Jack:

Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter addressed to Bob Michel.
Will you please accommodate the Special Agent.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

GRF:fd

Encl.

GERALD R. FORD
11th DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

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110 MICHIGAN NW
GRAND RAPIDS 49502

Congress of the United States
Office of the Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

October 19, 1973

Mr. George Bush
Chairman
Republican National Committee
Washington, D. C.

Dear George:

Please authorize the bearer, a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to examine any and all records which may be on file with the Committee that relate to me.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

GRF:fd

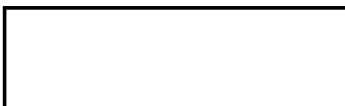
GERALD R. FORD
11TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

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GRAND RAPIDS 49502

Congress of the United States
Office of the Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

October 19, 1973



Alexandria, Virginia

To Whom It May Concern:

The bearer, a Special Agent or Agents of the Federal Bureau
of Investigation, is authorized to examine the account of
[redacted] by Gerald R. Ford in the [redacted]
[redacted]

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

GRF:fd

b6
b7C

GERALD R. FORD
FIFTH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

MICHIGAN OFFICE:
720 FEDERAL BUILDING
110 MICHIGAN NW
GRAND RAPIDS 49502

Congress of the United States
Office of the Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

October 19, 1973



Alexandria, Virginia

To Whom It May Concern:

The bearer, a Special Agent or Agents of the Federal Bureau
of Investigation, is authorized to examine the account of

[Redacted] by Gerald R. Ford in the [Redacted]
[Redacted]

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

GRF:fd

b6
b7C

GERALD R. FORD
FIFTH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

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DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

MICHIGAN OFFICE:
720 FEDERAL BUILDING
. 110 MICHIGAN NW
GRAND RAPIDS 49502

Congress of the United States
Office of the Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

October 19, 1973

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

Will you kindly permit the bearer, a Special Agent of the Federal
Bureau of Investigation, to receive from you a description of

[Redacted]

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

Private Bill H.R. 5381 introduced by Mr. Ford on January 29, 1969, for the relief of Domenico Piemonte, Italian cheesemaker.

October 30, 1968, Frank Meyer received a telephone call from Mr. Frank Terranova, President of the F. & A. Cheese Corporation, of Grand Rapids, who also owns a cheese factory in Amery, Wisconsin, to ask for help, as follows:

Mr. Terranova stated that he employed 40 people in Amery, and only 2 or 3 cheesemakers; among the latter he had in his factory an Italian native, Mr. Dominic Piemonte, an excellent cheesemaker, who entered U.S. several years earlier, and would have to return to Italy by February 1, unless approval comes through for extension of his visa -- or adjustment of status to regular immigrant visa.

Frank advised Mr. Terranova to send all information concerning Mr. Piemonte to our office and he would consult Immigration and Naturalization Service to see what the problem is and what can be done.

January 24, 1969, upon receiving letter and attachments from Mr. Terranova, Mr. Ford advised Mr. Terranova he would introduce a private bill in behalf of Piemonte, in order to cover his stay here temporarily -- to provide time for a decision by Immigration Service on Piemonte's status as a sixth-preference applicant, based on employer Terranova's request for such preference.

In the information sent Mr. Ford by Terranova, it was indicated that Congressman Abraham Multer of Brooklyn, in 1966 introduced private bill H.R. 16685 in behalf of Piemonte. Through that action Piemonte was permitted to remain in the U.S. until February 1, 1969, it was stated. Since Congressman Multer was elected a New York State Supreme Court justice on November 7, 1967, he could not introduce a new bill in behalf of Piemonte.

Mr. Ford introduced a private bill identical to Mr. Multer's on Jan. 29, 1969.

On January 30, 1969, Mr. Ford advised Mr. Terranova in Grand Rapids of this action, but advising him it covered his status for the "time being" and that Piemonte would have to be in a position to adjust his status within two years' time - duration of 91st Congress. (Meaning, of course, that the petition for sixth preference classification would have to be approved by Immigration Service, AND THAT NUMBERS WOULD BECOME AVAILABLE for sixth preference.)

On November 17, 1969, Chairman Celler sent Mr. Ford a copy of a notification to the Chairman that sixth preference classification was approved for Mr. Piemonte.

January 27, 1971: Mr. Ford advised Mr. Terranova of information he had received about sixth preference approval, but that visa numbers were not then available to natives of Italy for that preference category. NOTHING FURTHER HEARD FROM MR. TERRANOVA, and file closed on June 3, 1971.

October 18, 1973

Check with Senate Sub-Committee on Immigration (Judiciary Committee) reveals:

On November 4, 1969 -- Senator Proxmire of Wisconsin introduced S. 3105,
for the relief of Domenico Piemonte.

On January 26, 1971 -- Senator Proxmire re-introduced bill -- becoming S. 226 --
for the relief of Domenico Piemonte.

On July 20, 1971 -- Indefinitely postponed by action of the Full Judiciary
Committee, because "approval of the measure appeared
unwarranted."

***** --- (In check with Senator Proxmire's office today it was
indicated that the Committee had asked for some evidence
of hardship considered to be extreme in support of the
case, and that the Senator had tried and tried to obtain
any such information from the Wisconsin factory's Manager,
but no response was ever received. Therefore, there
appeared to be no reason to hold over the measure. The
Senator then dropped the case.)

A copy of the Senator's bill and letter from the Judiciary
Committee is being sent here from Senator Proxmire's office.

Until a check was made with the Senate Committee today, and with
Senator Proxmire's office as well, Mr. Ford had no knowledge that
any bill had been introduced on the Senate side for Mr. Piemonte.

A check with the Subcommittee on Immigration, House Judiciary Committee, today,
indicates that Mr. Multer introduced H.R. 16685 in 1966, and on January 10, 1967,
re-introduced the bill as H.R. 1704. (Congressman Multer left the U.S. Congress
after he was elected a N.Y. State Supreme Court justice on November 7, 1967.)

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HARRY CONOVER

REPORT ON EXAMINATION OF
AUDITORS' REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE PERIOD FROM
JANUARY 1, 1940 TO MARCH 31, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

JACOBSON, GREENFELD & CO.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

285 MADISON AVENUE

NEW YORK

JEL J. JACOBSON, C.P.A.
IRVING GREENFELD, C.P.A.
RAY H. LEVY, C.P.A.
IR WEINBERGER, C.P.A.

TELEPHONE
CALEDONIA
5-3870

June 27, 1944

[REDACTED]
9 East 40th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to your request, we reviewed the reports heretofore rendered quarterly by W. A. Hansen Co., accountants and auditors, to Harry Conover (a partnership) for the four years and three months ended March 31, 1944. We also examined the available records of Harry Conover for the period referred to.

The examination was made for the purpose of determining whether the records were in agreement with the reports and for the further purpose of ascertaining whether the records and reports correctly presented the income of the firm for the periods stated, and its financial condition as at the dates indicated in the several reports.

Our examination did not include a verification of either assets or liabilities nor did it include a check of the transactions. It was confined to a review of the records and an analysis of the facts presented therein.

Attention is directed to the fact that per information given us by [REDACTED], no formal books of account were kept prior to January 1, 1943. [REDACTED] advised us that prior records were kept by his firm on analysis paper and that all statements and tax returns for such earlier periods were prepared from the analysis sheets thus maintained. We did not examine these analysis sheets.

The records submitted to and examined by us included:

- 1) General journal and ledger for the period January 1, 1943 to March 31, 1944.
- 2) Cash books for the period August 3, 1942 to April 30, 1944.
- 3) Bank statements and cancelled checks for the period January 1, 1943 to December 31, 1943.
- 4) Payroll book for the period January 1, 1941 to December 31, 1943.
- 5) Exchange Account Ledger.
- 6) Payroll tax returns, Federal and New York State, for the three years 1941, 1942 and 1943.
- 7) Forms W-4 filed with Harry Conover by employees for the year 1943.
- 8) Letter addressed to the firm on September 3, 1942 by Columbia Pictures Corporation.

An analysis of the operations by quarters for the period reviewed follows:

<u>Quarter Ending</u>	<u>Gross Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Net Income</u>
March 31, 1940	\$ 2,563.62	\$ 1,943.95	\$ 619.67
June 30, 1940	2,999.80	2,682.98	316.82
Sept. 30, 1940	4,923.53	3,578.04	1,345.49
Dec. 31, 1940	6,221.69	4,851.33	1,370.36
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$16,708.64</u>	<u>13,056.30</u>	<u>\$3,652.34</u>
March 31, 1941	\$ 6,825.74	\$ 4,752.91	\$ 2,072.83
June 30, 1941	8,071.78	5,870.54	2,201.24
Sept. 30, 1941	7,296.54	7,144.30	152.24
Dec. 31, 1941	8,035.65	8,479.71	-444.06
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$30,229.71</u>	<u>\$26,047.46</u>	<u>\$4,182.25</u>
March 31, 1942	\$ 6,714.12	\$ 3,437.45	\$ 3,276.67
June 30, 1942	7,478.24	8,505.45	-1,027.21
Sept. 30, 1942	7,683.57	7,671.21	12.36
Dec. 31, 1942	7,529.91	7,517.23	12.68
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$29,355.84</u>	<u>\$29,131.39</u>	<u>\$224.45</u>
March 31, 1943	\$ 7,196.91	\$ 6,869.11	\$ 327.80
June 30, 1943	9,236.08	7,929.32	1,306.76
Sept. 30, 1943	9,696.34	11,910.61	-2,214.27
Dec. 31, 1943	14,044.81	14,003.95	40.86
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$40,174.04</u>	<u>\$40,713.09</u>	<u>-\$539.05</u>
March 31, 1944	\$11,600.65	\$13,705.84	-\$2,105.19

Attention is directed to the fact that beginning with the third quarter of 1941, expenses increased so sharply as to convert profits previously earned into losses and that thereafter this tendency continued until the third quarter of 1942.

In the third and fourth quarters of 1942, the firm about broke even. In the first quarter of 1943 earnings amounted to \$327.80 and in the second quarter to \$1,306.76.

Increases in expenses in the third quarter of 1943 offset enlarged income and losses were then incurred in the next three quarters.

It is to be noted that both in 1941 and in 1943 the increases in expenses followed enlargements of income very promptly thus cancelling any benefits that flowed from the greater income.

The increases in expenses for the third quarters of 1941 and 1943 over the second quarters for each of the two years in approximated amounts follows:

	<u>1941</u>	<u>1943</u>
Advertising and Publicity	\$ -80.00	\$1,325.00
Salaries	425.00	1,780.00
Telephone	140.00	140.00
Stationery	250.00	- 900.00
Rent and Light		900.00
Miscellaneous	90.00	- 200.00
Taxes		50.00
Legal and Accounting	45.00	- 300.00
Depreciation		140.00
Harry Conover, Salary	675.00	
Sundry		140.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$1,535.00</u>	<u>\$4,000.00</u>

After each of the third quarters referred to, expenses increased further and were thereafter maintained at a higher level as indicated by the following:

	<u>1941</u>	<u>1943</u>
Third quarter	\$7,144.30	\$11,910.61
Fourth quarter	<u>8,479.71</u>	<u>14,803.05</u>
<u>Increase</u>	<u>\$1,335.41</u>	<u>\$ 2,893.34</u>

To some extent the increases in expenses for the fourth quarters of 1941 and 1943 were offset by increased income, as per the following schedule:

	<u>1941</u>	<u>1943</u>
Third Quarter	\$7,296.54	\$ 9,696.84
Fourth Quarter	<u>8,055.65</u>	<u>14,044.81</u>
<u>Increase</u>	<u>\$ 739.11</u>	<u>\$ 4,347.97</u>

The increases in Payrolls have been compared with the Payroll records and the Payroll tax returns filed and appear to represent proper expenditures.

Similarly, increased telephone charges, stationery and rent and light payments appear to be proper.

We are not, however, passing on the wisdom of the policy as a result of which these expenses were increased to the extent of converting profits into losses.

For the seventeen quarters reviewed, the expenses covered by the four foregoing categories were as follows:

<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Payrolls</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Stationery</u>	<u>Rent and Light</u>
1st, 1940	\$ 605.00	\$ 415.01	\$ 99.98	\$ 243.63
2nd, 1940	920.00	470.49	320.34	243.13
3rd, 1940	1,317.50	558.86	673.86	401.15
4th, 1940	1,573.50	754.33	604.43	343.49
1st, 1941	1,750.40	856.39	626.87	497.16
2nd, 1941	2,038.00	547.37	951.95	537.70
3rd, 1941	2,412.50	639.35	1,304.15	525.42
4th, 1941	2,645.00	743.22	1,443.79	512.12

(Continued)

<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Payrolls</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Stationery</u>	<u>Rent and Light</u>
(Continued)				
1st, 1942	\$2,532.50	\$ 713.64	\$1,918.74	\$ 510.14
2nd, 1942	2,552.50	772.27	2,221.60	357.60
3rd, 1942	2,697.50	691.63	1,116.04	649.40
4th, 1942	2,670.00	841.48	872.08	449.72
1st, 1943	2,653.00	866.04	513.79	892.93
2nd, 1943	3,438.10	831.60	685.55	525.92
3rd, 1943	5,160.00	976.07	400.95	1,595.44
4th, 1943	6,665.63	1,248.41	695.65	1,321.14
1st, 1944	6,091.50	864.53	840.61	775.63

The stationery item includes cost of printing "Who is She".

With respect to advertising and publicity and miscellaneous there are included in these items cash expenditures unsupported by creditors' vouchers substantial in amounts. We have been informed that such expenditures represent in large part expenses necessarily incurred by Mr. Canever for entertainment.

The remaining expense items are not important in amount and appear to be reasonable.

The several reports examined, however, include as a liability on the Balance Sheet, an item designated as Exchanges Unpaid.

The accounts so shown are set forth in the following tabulation:

	<u>March 31st</u>	<u>June 30th</u>	<u>September 30th</u>	<u>December 31st</u>
1940	\$ 343.60	\$ 793.60	\$ 554.19	\$ 1,322.02
1941	3,055.63	4,273.59	6,023.68	9,008.31
1942	7,700.33	10,219.43	12,003.29	10,301.70
1943	10,631.93	12,023.33	14,531.62	15,930.13
1944	22,930.03			

The foregoing amounts have been arrived at after transferring from the "Exchanges Account" the amount of \$5,175.56 to Capital Investment in the last quarter of 1942 and after transferring to income sundry sums from time to time.

The firm's auditors have indicated in their reports that the account is a mixed one and includes in their opinion, income to the extent of at least 50% of the total credits reflected by the account.

The constant increase in the balances reflected by the account over the period of years leads us to believe that a far larger percentage than 50% of the account should be transferred to income.

Should the entire amount of the credit to the "Exchanges" be treated as income, then the resultant capital would be as shown by the following schedule:

	<u>Harry Conover</u>	<u>Gerald Ford</u>	<u>Total</u>
Exchanges Treated as Income	\$15,236.69	\$7,643.34	\$22,880.03
Capital Investment	4,250.37	2,125.19	6,375.56
Total	\$19,487.06	\$9,768.53	\$29,255.59
Less-Debits in Drawing Accounts	13,520.61	2,537.22	16,057.83
<u>Net Capital-March 31, 1944</u>	<u>\$ 6,016.45</u>	<u>\$ 7,131.31</u>	<u>\$13,147.76</u>

Should any part of the "Exchanges" be treated as a liability, then the credits to capital account "Exchanges" as set forth in the foregoing tabulation will have to be correspondingly reduced.

Attention is directed to the fact, however, that the foregoing figures do not take into consideration any element of "Good Will" and it is apparent that substantial sums are being spent in building "Good Will". These expenditures include development of staff, entertainment, publication of "Who is She" and like items. There should also be considered in this connection publicity resulting from release of "Cover Girl" and from the use of the publicized name "Harry Conover".

The "Cover Girl", produced by Columbia Pictures Corporation only resulted in the receipt of a cash income of \$3,834.47. It seems probable that the value of the publicity given the firm on the showing of the picture will exceed by far the cash income realized. Copy of letter addressed to Harry Conover by Columbia Pictures Corporation is attached hereto in this connection.

Respectfully submitted,

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
(New York)

COLUMBIA PICTURES CORPORATION
Columbia Square
Hollywood, California
Hollywood 3181

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DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

September 3rd, 1942

Mr. Harry Conover,
52 Vanderbilt Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Harry:

I have just had the opportunity of going over your situation with [redacted] and wanted to clarify Columbia's position with regard to our talks in New York.

First of all, it should be definitely understood that if at the time the picture is released we are still allowed to give screen credit to individuals, that we will at that time include screen credit for you as technical advisor or something similar thereto.

Secondly, you must realize that this whole "Cover Girl" idea was brought to you by Columbia for the purpose of cooperation, with the thought in mind that it would be of mutual benefit since you and your agency would receive tremendous publicity; and Columbia, by cooperating with an agency like yours, would be able to obtain the right persons. However, in trying to work out everything for our mutual benefit, we cannot have this picture known as "The Conover Cover Girl" and therefore we cannot make you a part of our regular publicity releases. We can, however, and it is our intention to plan special publicity both in newspapers and magazines throughout the country, in which your name will be used extensively in connection with the "Cover Girl" plan as a whole. You are fully aware of how, through [redacted] we have tried to cooperate with you, and you should realize that if any magazine ignores the Conover credit, it is not our doing but is due solely to the whim of the particular editor of the magazine. We have told [redacted] to cooperate and we know that she has done so.

Thirdly, you are well aware of the fact that it is our intention to issue a brochure of an elaborate nature which will be distributed to newspapers all over the country, as well as approximately fifteen thousand exhibitors, and we intend to include in that brochure a story regarding you which we feel certain will be satisfactory to you.

Fourthly, with respect to your letter to me, it is impossible for us to make arrangements with you at this time whereby you will actually act as technical director or advisor on the "Cover Girl" picture, due to the fact that the script has not as yet been finished and we do not know the exact starting date nor do we know whether or not we will actually be able to use your services. If we find that we will require your services, you can rest assured that we will enter into satisfactory arrangements with you. However, if we find that we cannot actually use your services as technical director or advisor, then naturally, it won't be necessary to make any agreement with you but we will arrange to give you screen credit.

September 3rd 1942

Page 2.

I am certain that you are fully aware of the value of the publicity that you and your entire organization is securing through the "Cover Girl" picture, and you likewise realize that each one of the Conover Cover Girls that has been selected by the various magazines for their cover girl, is proving to be of value to you which naturally results in a financial benefit to you.

I hope that the above gives you all the information you desire and I can only assure you once again that if, as and when we know exactly how we stand in connection with this picture, that things will probably work out to our mutual benefit.

If there is any further information that you want, please let me hear from you.

With kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

LSP/sg

U.S. House of Representatives
OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS

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DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

STATEMENT OF TENTATIVE COMPUTATIONS

(Under Public Law 854 as amended)

October 17, 1973

HONORABLE GERALD R. FORD, JR.

Retirement deductions as Member of Congress, effective January 3, 1949
Retirement deductions as an employee, effective None

Service credit deposit account, paid, as Member of Congress \$ 123.00
Period of service

Service credit deposit account, paid, as an employee \$ NONE
Period of service

Service credit deposit account, not paid, as Member of Congress \$ NONE
Period of service

Service credit deposit account, not paid, as an employee \$
Period of service

Approximate amount of deposit as of, \$, as of, \$,
(As Member of Congress)

Approximate amount of deposit as of, \$, as of, \$,
(As an employee)

The following computations are based on 24 years 9 months as Member of Congress. 13 days
..... years months as an employee. 10 days
..... years months of active military service. 4 days

Date of separation, <u>October 1</u> , 19 <u>73</u>	FULL DEPOSIT MADE		FULL DEPOSIT NOT MADE	
	PER ANNUM	PER MONTH	PER ANNUM	PER MONTH
Annuity, 10 or more years of service, age 60 or older: Effective: <u>October 1, 1973</u> Single life annuity.....	35,604.00	2,967.00		
Survivor benefits:				
Rate to annuitant.....	32,316.00	2,693.00		
Rate to survivor (widow or widower).....	19,514.00	1,632.00		
Maximum annuity after 5 or more years of service, age 62 or older: Effective:				
Single life annuity.....				
Survivor benefits:				
Rate to annuitant.....				
Rate to survivor (widow or widower).....				

Remarks:

16-045-b GPO

The above computation is based on your service as Minority Leader.

ATTN: SUPR. ROOM 1258

FROM SAC, DETROIT (161-1355M)

- Admin. _____
- Comp. S. _____
- Ext. Affairs _____
- Ext. & Com. _____
- Gen. Inv. _____
- Ident. _____
- Intelligence _____
- Int. _____
- Lab. _____
- Plan. & Eval. _____
- Spec. _____
- Training _____
- Rec. Mgmt. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director's Sec'y _____

TOP SECRET

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New pages

504 + 505

For DE Rep 10-19-73

Re typed & inserted

111-7-7- Reg
121

27

or lying,' says
Rep. Brown

Dean's Testimony Disputes Brown

[illegible]

A-1-E

Date: 5/26/73
 Editor: HOMS
 Author: RAY SPENCER
 Editor: HERMAN TUNE
 Title:

Date: _____
 Classification: _____
 Submitting Office: **BLISSON**
☐ Being Investigated

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

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THE GRAND RAPIDS JOURNAL

FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 1973

Page 1-B

Ray's Testimony Dismisses Brown

RAY, MOBILE

RAY, MOBILE (AP) — Ray, who testified that he had been with Brown on the night of the slaying, said he had no memory of the slaying. He said he had been with Brown on the night of the slaying, but he had no memory of the slaying. He said he had been with Brown on the night of the slaying, but he had no memory of the slaying.

RAY, MOBILE (AP) — Ray, who testified that he had been with Brown on the night of the slaying, said he had no memory of the slaying. He said he had been with Brown on the night of the slaying, but he had no memory of the slaying. He said he had been with Brown on the night of the slaying, but he had no memory of the slaying.

RAY, MOBILE (AP) — Ray, who testified that he had been with Brown on the night of the slaying, said he had no memory of the slaying. He said he had been with Brown on the night of the slaying, but he had no memory of the slaying. He said he had been with Brown on the night of the slaying, but he had no memory of the slaying.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)
THE GRAND RAPIDS JOURNAL
GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

P- 1-B

Date: 6/26/73
Edition: Home
Author: RAY STEPHENS
Editor: WERNER VINT
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: DETROIT
☐ Being Investigated

Quay Presure

However, they have failed to present any other evidence, and have been unable to produce any other evidence to support their case. The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case. The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case.

In his testimony, both men stated that they had been in contact with the subject of the investigation, and that they had been in contact with the subject of the investigation. The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case.

It was the committee's view, as stated in its report, that the subject of the investigation had been in contact with the subject of the investigation. The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case.

Quay's Note Given

Quay's account conflicts with the account given by the subject of the investigation. The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case.

In the best of my recollection, I have not heard of any other evidence to support their case. The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case.

On Sept. 8, Brown sent a letter to the subject of the investigation, and the subject of the investigation sent a letter to Brown. The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case.

Brown replied that there is no other evidence to support their case. The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case.

The letter from Brown to the subject of the investigation, and the letter from the subject of the investigation to Brown, are both in the possession of the committee. The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case.

Brown went on to testify that the subject of the investigation had been in contact with the subject of the investigation. The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case.

Quay's Note Given

It was the committee's view, as stated in its report, that the subject of the investigation had been in contact with the subject of the investigation. The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case.

On Sept. 25, Chairman Patman announced that he would be voting on Oct. 3 regarding the subject of the investigation. The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case.

"I began to get increasing pressure from (Senator Arthur) Watkins," Brown testified, "to get the subject of the investigation to get the subject of the investigation." The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case.

The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case. The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case.

Brown again emphasized that the letter was sent Aug. 25, and that it was received in it as Brown's last letter to him before the subject of the investigation.

There is no other evidence to support their case. The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case.

It is unfortunate in that it was the subject of the investigation, and the subject of the investigation, who were the subject of the investigation. The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case.

In the best of my recollection, the subject of the investigation had been in contact with the subject of the investigation. The committee has been unable to find any other evidence to support their case.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE ALEXANDRIA	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 10/22/73	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10/22/73
TITLE OF CASE GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, aka Gerald Rudolph Ford, Jr., Leslie King, Jr.		REPORT MADE BY SA [REDACTED]	TYPED BY lmm
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY	

REFERENCES: Detroit teletype to Bureau, 10/19/73.
Report of SA [REDACTED] 10/9/73, at Alexandria.

- RUC -

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:	
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			PENDING OVER ONE YEAR	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>					SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE:								
6 - Bureau (161-9896)								
1 - Alexandria (161-2322)								
1 - [illegible]								
Dissemination Record of Attached Report					Notations			
Agency	1 - [illegible]				<i>[Stamp]</i>			
Request Recd.								
Date Fwd.	10-24-73							
How Fwd.	[illegible]							
Bv	[illegible]							

-A*-

COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

Copy to:

Report of: SA [REDACTED] Office: Alexandria, Virginia
Date: 10/22/73
Field Office File #: 161-2322 Bureau File #: 161-9896
Title: GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

Savings accounts of appointee's children, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] at [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Alexandria, Virginia, reviewed.

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b7c

- RUC -

DETAILS:

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE WASHINGTON FIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 10/23/73	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10/23/73
TITLE OF CASE GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, aka Gerald Rudolph Ford, Jr., Leslie King, Jr. ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls		REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 150px; height: 1.2em; margin: 0 auto;"></div>	TYPED BY rst
		CHARACTER OF CASE SPI	

b6
b7c

REFERENCES: WFO report of SA dtd. 10/20/73 at
Washington, D. C.
Los Angeles teletype dated 10/19/73.

- P -

LEADS: WASHINGTON FIELD

- (1) Will obtain comments from Rep. ANDERSON when available.
- (2) Will report results of checks of records of Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives
- (3) Will review records pertaining to private bills introduced by FORD

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
							PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED					SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
COPIES MADE:							
9 - Bureau (161-9896)							
1 - WFO (161-9324)							
Dissemination Record of Attached Report					Notations		
Agency	1-WFO	2-WFO					
Request Recd.							
Te Fwd.							
W Fwd.							

WFO 161-9324

- (4) Appointee to be re-interviewed for additional comments about unidentified Staff member.

- B* -

COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

Copy to:

Report of:

[REDACTED]

Office: Washington, D. C.

Date:

October 23, 1973

Field Office File #:

161-9324

Bureau File #: 161-9896

b6
b7C

Title:

GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

Character:

SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

Appointee re-interviewed; provided additional personal information. Appointee's staff members interviewed; all favorable, however, appointee's Administrative Assistant revealed there is one staff member who could be potential embarrassment for appointee. Would not give identity or circumstances until re-interview with appointee. Congressmen HUBER and RIEGLE interviewed with favorable comments, however, RIEGLE mentioned unsubstantiated rumor (source unrecalled) about past "funny money transactions" of appointee. Congressman CONYERS withholding all comment concerning appointee pending submission of his nomination to Committee on the Judiciary, of which he is a member, for confirmation proceedings. [REDACTED] interviewed; [REDACTED] recontacted concerning proposed Chinese business deal; provided no substantial additional information. CALKINS, Executive Director, Republican National Committee furnished information concerning Congressional account as set forth. Reporter TER HORST and Teamster President FITZSIMMONS favorably recommend.

- P -

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

WFO 161-9324

RTT:nsw

1

INTERVIEW OF APPOINTEE

Representative GERALD R. FORD volunteered the following information to SA RICHARD T. TAYLOR, JR. on October 23, 1973:

Representative FORD received a telephone call from HAL WALTON, an executive of the Lear Siegler Corporation, Detroit, Michigan, on the evening of October 22, 1973, at the Representative's residence. Mr. WALTON advised he had been contacted by representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) who questioned him concerning the frequency of Representative FORD's use of corporate aircraft owned by Lear Siegler. Mr. WALTON referred to a trip made aboard the Lear Siegler aircraft approximately one year ago which flew from Detroit, Michigan, to Washington, D. C., in which he and Representative FORD were passengers. Representative FORD wished to make clear the circumstances surrounding this trip.

Representative FORD recalled he had been visiting Grand Rapids, Michigan, on the above occasion and had received notice from the White House that his presence would be needed at a customary leadership luncheon with President NIXON and other Congressional leaders. He recalled he had been detained in Grand Rapids until 9:30 p.m. on Monday immediately preceding the Tuesday luncheon. He found there was no direct commercial travel available from Grand Rapids which would have insured his presence at the luncheon. Representative FORD determined the Lear aircraft would be making a direct flight to Washington, D. C. and he accepted an invitation to make use of the jet flight in company with Mr. WALTON.

Representative FORD referred to his conversation with his Administrative Assistant, ROBERT T. HARTMANN, in the presence of SA TAYLOR on August 20, 1973. He wished to re-emphasize that he had not been aware of the previous conversation between Mr. HARTMANN and [REDACTED] until last Saturday when Mr. HARTMANN described the particulars of the conversation.

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WFO 161-9324

RTT:glg

Interviews of Representative Ford's Staff

The following investigation was conducted by
SA RICHARD T. TAYLOR, JR., on October 23, 1973:

Miss DOROTHY HESSLER, Secretary, advised she has been a member of Representative FORD's personal staff for approximately 6½ years. During this time she also has visited his residence in Alexandria, Virginia, and has joined with the appointee's family in various social functions at the residence and at the U. S. Capitol. She described the appointee and his family as a close-knit and devoted family, and she has no question concerning their reputation in the community.

Miss HESSLER describes the appointee as a sincere, warm, and compassionate person. She has never observed any excesses or questionable activity on his part. She knows of no information which could be considered as reflecting unfavorably upon his personal habits, integrity, reputation, or loyalty to the United States. She recommends him without hesitation to any position involving trust and responsibility in the United States Government.

ROBERT T. HARTMANN, Minority Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives and Legislative Assistant to Representative FORD, advised he first met the appointee approximately 8½ years ago, when Mr. HARTMANN was Chief of the Washington Bureau of the Los Angeles Times. He has been a member of Representative FORD's personal staff since the late 1960's. He describes him as a "hard charging, dedicated member of the Republican Party", and he is a person of unquestionable personal, professional, and political integrity. He has traveled extensively with him, both in the United States, and overseas. He has observed him under conditions of considerable stress at which time the appointee has always functioned at the top of his ability and in a forthright, considerate fashion. He describes him as moderate in his

WFO 161-9324

RTT:glg

personal habits. He knows of no unfavorable information concerning the appointee's character, associates, reputation, or loyalty. He recommends him to any position of trust or responsibility in the United States Government for which President NIXON may care to appoint him, particularly to the Office of Vice President of the United States.

Concerning the operation of Representative FORD's Staff, Mr. HARTMANN advised that he, for the most part, knows of no situation existing among the staff members which could be considered as having any potential for embarrassment to Representative FORD. However, he has some question concerning one of the staff who may present a "problem" and some embarrassment to Representative FORD. He declined to identify this individual, and said Mr. FORD is aware of the individual and that Mr. FORD would disclose this individual's problem when the Representative becomes available for interview.

MILDRED LEONARD, Personal Secretary to Representative FORD, advised she has been a member of his staff for more than ten years. During this time, she never had any reason to question his integrity, reputation, or loyalty to the United States. She recommends him without hesitation to a position of trust and responsibility in the United States Government and particularly to the post to which he has been nominated.

WFO 161-9324

RTT:nsw

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Michigan Congressional Delegation

The following investigation was conducted by
SA RICHARD T. TAYLOR, JR. on October 23, 1973:

Representative ROBERT J. HUBER advised he has had close political association with the appointee since November 7, 1972, when Representative HUBER was first elected to the House of Representatives as a Representative of the Eighteenth Michigan District. Representative HUBER, a former member of the Michigan State Legislature, had casual political contact with the appointee from approximately 1965 until November, 1972. He does not consider him a close personal friend. His previous casual contact with him as well as his close recent association with him provides Representative HUBER with no unfavorable information concerning the appointee's character, associates, reputation or loyalty. He described him as being moderate in his personal habits and as a dedicated public servant. He recommends him to any position involving trust and responsibility in the United States Government for which President NIXON may care to select him and, particularly, for the post of Vice President of the United States.

Representative DONALD W. RIEGLE, JR., advised he has known the appointee since 1966 as a colleague in the Michigan Delegation and as a close personal friend. He recalls no instances wherein he has had any reason to question the appointee's personal integrity noting, from his experience (Representative RIEGLE's), the appointee has never violated any confidence between him and the appointee. He has observed him in attendance at social functions and has noted he partakes of alcoholic beverages in a moderate fashion and he has always observed the appointee on these occasions to be in complete control of his faculties.

Representative RIEGLE advised he had heard rumors to the effect that in the late 1960's there had been so-called "funny money transactions" concerning campaign donations which had been contributed to Representative FORD's organization but

which also had been disbursed among various Congressional candidates in Michigan and in other parts of the United States. He stressed he has no first-hand knowledge of these transactions and he also emphasized he is certain Representative FORD had nothing to do with them and also had no knowledge of these transactions. Representative RIEGLE is unable to suggest when he first heard of **these occurrences and is unable** to give any indication as to who may have any knowledge of them.

With the exception of the foregoing, Representative RIEGLE has heard of no information concerning the appointee nor has he observed any conduct on his part which would cause him to question the appointee's personal or professional integrity. He considers him a loyal American of good character, reputation and associates. **Representative RIEGLE withholds further comments** until such time as the appointee's nomination is presented to the House of Representatives for confirmation.

WFO 161-9324

Representative JOHN CONYERS, JR., advised he has known the appointee on a political basis as a colleague and member of the Michigan House delegation during the past eight years. During this time they have had some philosophical differences with regard to legislation and other political matters. Representative CONYERS, a member of the Committee on the Judiciary, is withholding all comment concerning the appointee pending submission of his nomination to his Committee for confirmation proceedings.

WFO 161-9324

GES:pm

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On October 23, 1973, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], was reinterviewed by Special Agent GEORGE E. SAUNDERS.

[REDACTED] advised he vaguely recalls a story being circulated concerning BOB HARTMAN (phonetic), Aide to Congressman FORD, alleging HARTMAN was setting up an import business for the distribution of marketable items from Red China. He recalls the date of this story as taking place during the Summer of 1972, after his return from Red China when he accompanied FORD and a delegation from the House of Representatives to Red China. When he heard the above story, he immediately called HARTMAN to determine if there was any substance or truth to the matter. He recalls HARTMAN denying having any part of such a business venture. [REDACTED] does not recall the source of the story. It was pointed out to [REDACTED] that he reportedly called HARTMAN subsequent to the above phone call, in which he told HARTMAN to **forget** the story and words to the effect that there was no foundation for it. [REDACTED] advised that this rumor **involved HARTMAN** and did not involve Congressman FORD. [REDACTED] advised he has never heard of the **individuals** [REDACTED] **or** [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] advised this is the first time since the Summer of 1972, that he has heard anything of the rumor involving HARTMAN.

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[REDACTED] suggested the Federal Bureau of Investigation contact [REDACTED], who accompanied the delegation to Red China, and was the economic advisor to the group, and at that time was a representative of the Joint Economic Committee. He also suggested an interview with [REDACTED] (phonetic), who is presently on the staff of Senator [REDACTED]. He recalls that [REDACTED] accompanied Senator SCOTT and Senator MANSFIELD to Red China and would be aware of any possible business ventures contracted by any individuals in the United States.

[REDACTED] advised he would continue to mull over the matter, and if he could recall the person who originally informed him of this alleged business venture, he would notify Special Agent SAUNDERS. He also would attempt to determine from recollection the person he contacted after his original call to HARTMAN regarding this matter, and the subsequent notifying HARTMAN that there was no substance to it.

WFO 161-9324

RTT:psd

1

On October 23, 1973, ANN WANAMAKER, Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives, Office of Finance advised CHARLES G. DRAGO had been employed as Administrative Assistant to Representative STANFORD E. PARRIS from January 3, 1972 to September 30, 1973. He is not presently an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives. Miss WANAMAKER advised her files contained no record identifiable with DRAGO as ever having been a **member of the staff of the appointee**, Representative GERALD R. FORD. Inquiry of Representative PARRIS' office determined DRAGO is presently residing at Annapolis, Maryland.

WFO 161-9324

JSR:law

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The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] at Washington, D.C.:

On October 23, 1973, Mr. JOHN T. CALKINS, Executive Director, Republican National Committee, was interviewed in his office, Room 520, Dwight D. Eisenhower Building, concerning a \$500 per quarter payment to GERALD R. FORD.

CALKINS advised that every Republican incumbent receives a \$500 or \$750 per quarter amount to be applied for the purpose of public relations. He stated that non-marginal incumbents received \$500, while marginal incumbents received \$750. The difference between a marginal and a non-marginal incumbent is that a non-marginal incumbent receives 55 per cent or more of the popular vote in his election.

CALKINS advised that the Senator or Congressman does not receive this money directly; rather, he receives a credit to his Public Relations Account. This money is authorized by the Executive Committee. The money is used for newsletters, questionnaires, and radio, television tapes. The money is to be used strictly for public relations work. An example was cited as follows: "If a Congressman had printed a bumper sticker 'I Visited Congressman Jones', this would be paid for, but if the Congressman had a sticker which read 'Vote for Congressman Jones', this would not be approved."

Mr. EDWARD TERRAR, Finance Director, Republican National Committee, was called into CALKINS' office and revealed GERALD FORD's Public Relations Account Sheet. As of October 23, 1973, FORD had a credit of \$467.09.

CALKINS stated that FORD received no preferential treatment and his account was in satisfactory condition. He repeated the fact that every incumbent received the same amount.

WFO 161-9324

JE/eml

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On October 23, 1973, SA [redacted] contacted [redacted] Detroit News, 511 National Press Building, Washington, D.C., his place of employment, where he advised that he has known the appointee on a professional as well as social basis since 1946. He noted that from 1946 to 1951, he, [redacted], was employed as a [redacted] in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He advised that he became closely acquainted with the appointee's professional abilities and political ideals during this period of time and has found him to be a person of high intelligence who has an outstanding knowledge of domestic affairs. He stated that the appointee maintained an excellent reputation amongst a large percentage of Michigan voters and that he is of the opinion that the appointee has performed an exemplary job as a Congressman from the State of Michigan.

He further advised that he has socialized with the appointee and his wife on a continual basis since 1946 and has found both to be mature, stable, and responsible individuals. He described the appointee as being a man of high moral character, integrity and honesty. He is aware of no actions on the part of the appointee which could bring discredit to himself and asserted that he has no reason to question appointee's loyalty to the U.S. Government.

He further advised that he, [redacted] has been residing and working in the Washington, D.C., area since 1957 and during the subsequent years has only heard favorable comments regarding the appointee from both friends and professional acquaintances.

[redacted] advised that the appointee possesses the qualifications and native ability to serve in a high Government position and he knows of no reason why he could not recommend him for a position of trust and responsibility with the U.S. Government.

WFO 161-9324

RST/eml

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Mr. FRANK E. FITZSIMMONS, President, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, 25 Louisiana Avenue, N.W., advised SA [] on October 23, 1973, that he does not know Congressman FORD intimately, having only met him on a few occasions, although he has followed Mr. FORD's public career in politics for the past 15 or 20 years. Nothing adverse concerning Mr. FORD's character, loyalty, integrity, reputation, or associates has ever come to Mr. FITZSIMMONS' attention. Mr. FITZSIMMONS feels the selection of Mr. FORD as the Vice-Presidential designate is a fine choice for this position, and that Mr. FORD merits, by his public life, consideration for this high office.

TREAT AS ORIGINAL

FD-448 (10-23-71)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Transmit attached by Facsimile - PLAINTEXT

Priority URGENT

001 231373

TELETYPE

To: DIRECTOR, FBI (161-9896)

Date: 10/23/73

From: SAC, LOS ANGELES (161-2471)

Time: Transmitted -

Subject: GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, aka
Gerald Rudolph Ford, Jr.
Leslie King, Jr.

Received -

- SPI
- | | | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fingerprint Photo | <input type="checkbox"/> Fingerprint Record | <input type="checkbox"/> Map | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper clipping | <input type="checkbox"/> Photograph |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Artists Conception | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Report (1)</u> | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (6 min) | <input type="checkbox"/> (4 min) | | | |

Special handling instructions:

Hand carry Mr. AUERSWALD - Div. 9

Approved: (Signature)

Aug 10/23/73

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

2-10-73

9

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE LOS ANGELES	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BUREAU	DATE 10/23/73	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 10/19/73 - 10/23/73
TITLE OF CASE GERALD RUDOLPH FORD, aka Gerald Rudolph Ford, Jr., Leslie King, Jr.		REPORT MADE BY [redacted]	TYPED BY dmg
		CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY	
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls			

REFERENCE: Los Angeles reports of SA [redacted]
dated 10/20/73.

- RUC -

ADMINISTRATIVE

For information of the Bureau it is believed [redacted] who is retired from the "Washington Times Herald," is the newspaper editor from Washington D.C. referred to by [redacted] in his comments which are contained in referenced reports.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED				<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES				
APPROVED [signature] COPIES MADE [signature]					SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
6 - Bureau (161-9896) 2 - Washington Field (161-9324) 1 - Los Angeles (161-2471)								
Dissemination Record of Attached Report					Notations			
Agency	1-10-Trans	3-10-10-10						
Request Recd.								
Date Fwd.	10/31/73							
How Fwd.	10/31/73							
By	D. A.							

COVER DATE

LA 161-2471

LEAD

WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.: Will interview []
[] concerning his contact with [] and determine
if there is any connection between [] and appointee.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of:

Date:

10/23/73

Office: Los Angeles, California

Field Office File #: 161-2471

Bureau File #: 161-9886

Title: GERALD RUDOLPH FORD

Character: SPECIAL INQUIRY

Synopsis:

Interviews of [redacted]

[redacted] and [redacted] have not met set out. [redacted] appointee and have no specific information concerning use of appointee's name in connection with importation of goods from Red China. [redacted] advises he believes appointee was member of 16-man group known as Diversified Investment, Incorporated or Directors Financial, Incorporated which was set up to import goods from China. He stated [redacted] was "contact man" for this group. [redacted] advises he is [redacted] of Directors Financial Corporation which imports bananas from Ecuador and has never been involved in importation of products from China. [redacted] states appointee has no connection with Directors Financial Corporation. [redacted] at one time tested market in Los Angeles area for merchandise offered for sale by [redacted] that was to be imported from Red China. [redacted] stated FORD not involved with [redacted] but has heard rumor [redacted] at one time worked for appointee. [redacted] states he never used appointee's name in connection with inquiries he made as to the marketability in the Los Angeles area of products to be imported from Red China.

- RUC -

LA 161-2471

DETAILS:

MISCELLANEOUS

INTERVIEWS WITH

[REDACTED]

On October 19, 1973, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Los Angeles, California,
advised SA [REDACTED] he is the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] said that approximately one year ago his attorney, [REDACTED], had advised him there "may be a way to get products out of Red China." He said the attorney had obtained this information from one of his clients whose name [REDACTED] could not recall.

[REDACTED] stated in connection with the restaurant business of the "SS Princess Louise" he was particularly interested in obtaining shipments of crab and shrimp which might be imported from China. He was also interested in establishing shops for the marketing of other products that might be imported into the United States.

[REDACTED] advised that he met with the aforementioned client who was to set up the importation of the products from Red China and who furnished him with a list of possible products that could be imported. He said that he was told if he would furnish specifications for the products he desired, they could be "developed" in China at a low cost and subsequently imported into the United States. [REDACTED] stated at the above meeting he specifically asked for "bids" or prices that he would have to pay for crab and shrimp. [REDACTED] said it was agreed he would receive bids on the seafood products within 30 days but that he never heard anything additional concerning this.

[REDACTED] stated that in the above discussion the name of the appointee had been mentioned to him but he did not recall in what capacity the appointee's name had been used. He said in his opinion the only possible interest which the appointee could have had in the importation of goods from China would have been the interest of seeing that trade was established with Red China. He stated that

LA 161-2471

had the appointee's name been used otherwise it was possibly used "illegally" since he [] had received no response to his request for price quotations on shrimp and crab to be imported.

[] further stated that subsequent to the above meeting he mentioned the possibility of importing goods from China to []. He said he and [] had formerly been associated at [] Restaurant in Los Angeles and that [] has some experience as a Purchasing Agent. [] advised that he attended a meeting with [] and two other individuals concerning the establishment of outlets for goods that were to be imported from Red China. He could not recall the names of the ~~two~~ individuals other than [] who had attended this meeting. [] said he had furnished these individuals with a list of possible items that could be imported into the United States and he may have brought up the appointee's name in connection with the appointee's possible interest in seeing that trade was set up by the United States and Red China. [] said he is aware of no way in which the appointee was to be directly involved with the group to import products from China. He added that in his opinion there was "nothing shady and nothing illegal" concerning the possible importation of goods from China. [] said that nothing came from the above meeting and no business venture was ever established. He has had no additional contact with the two ~~unknown~~ individuals who were at the meeting with him and [].

[] additionally advised he has never met the appointee and he can furnish nothing specific about him.

On October 22, 1973, [] advised SA [] that he had been able to determine the individual with whom he initially had contact concerning the importation of goods from China and that this individual's name is [].

LA 161-2471

On October 22, 1973, [redacted]
[redacted], Los Angeles, California, advised SA [redacted]
he recalled [redacted] had discussed with him the fact
that he, [redacted] intended to go into some type of import -
export business involving the possible importation of
goods from Red China. [redacted] stated he had not gone
into detail with [redacted] concerning this matter, had not
been engaged to represent [redacted] as an attorney in the
matter and had made no notes concerning his discussion with
[redacted]. He recalled from his discussion that there seemed
to be several important people in Washington, D. C. involved
in the possible importation of goods from China but he
could relate nothing specific concerning the appointee.
He could not recall whether the appointee's name was
mentioned concerning the matter. [redacted] stated that
his understanding regarding the possible importation of
products from China is that there has been a lot of
conversation concerning this but that to his knowledge
no business had ever been established for importing the
goods and [redacted] has undertaken no business venture
in this regard.

[redacted] advised he had mentioned the
possibility of goods being imported from China to another
client of his, [redacted] and that [redacted] had been
interested in the importation of lobster tails and seafood
in connection with the operation of the "SS Princess
Louise" Restaurant in San Pedro, California. [redacted]
said he believed [redacted] had been in contact with [redacted]
[redacted] concerning this. [redacted] added he could furnish
no additional specific information regarding the above
matter but that [redacted] should be able to comment
specifically. [redacted] stated he has never met the
appointee and he is aware of nothing unfavorable concerning
the appointee.

On October 22, 1973, [redacted]
stated he has no professional title but is an employee
in the Credit Department of Daykin Medical and Surgical
Supply Company, 12910 Culver Boulevard, Los Angeles,
California, advised SA [redacted] that approximately eight or
nine months ago he had contact with [redacted] a retired
Washington, D. C. [redacted] who is supposedly the "direct

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contact" for a group known as Diversified Investment, Incorporated, or Directors Financial, Incorporated and is located at Washington, D. C. He stated he is not sure of the correct name of this organization. He said that, according to [] the group is composed of 16 men in Washington, D. C. who are prominent in politics and one of the heads of this group is "Congressman GERALD FORD." [] said he does not know the names of the other members of this group but he believes Mr. FORD to be the "Minority Leader of the United States Senate." [] stated that, according to [] the purpose of the group was to "establish direct trade routes between the United States and Red China."

[] stated [] had told him that he desired to investigate products now being imported into the United States from Japan and obtain samples and prices of these products and that the samples were to be submitted directly to Red China for competitive bidding on their production for importation into the United States. He stated that he, [] was furnished a list by [] of products that could be imported from China and was told specifically to obtain as much information as he could concerning nuts, bolts, and screws imported into the United States from Japan and to obtain samples of these products and submit them to [] who would in turn submit them to Red China for competitive bidding. [] said he spent considerable time in gathering information concerning these products and, in fact, submitted samples to []. He said [] advised him these products were submitted to China for competitive bidding and [] told him that Red China could produce these goods but had not been interested in "making a deal" because of the value of the American dollar at the time. [] stated that had the samples obtained by him been produced by China and imported to this country he was to have received a commission on the goods sold here. He added that he has recently contacted [] concerning the importation of sugar.

[] stated that, according to [] Diversified Investment, Incorporated, is able to furnish its own financing and issue its own letters of credit abroad. He said it is his understanding that because Diversified

LA 161-2471

Investment, Incorporated, is composed of politically prominent figures it is able to make contacts and possibly has entry into Red China that may not be open to the ordinary businessman. He said, however, that as far as he knows there is nothing illegal concerning the operation of this business. [] added the only way he has ever heard the appointee's name mentioned in connection with the importation of goods from China is that he is one of the 16-man group which composes Diversified Investment Incorporated. He stated he personally has never met the appointee and said he is unable to comment concerning him. He said that since [] is supposedly the "direct contact" for Diversified Investment, Incorporated, he could furnish more specific information concerning this operation. [] also mentioned that he has discussed importation of goods from China with an attorney by the name of [] and he believes that [] has had some contact with []

[] recalled that he met on one occasion with [], a client of [] concerning the possibility of importing goods from China and furnished [] with a list of possible products which [] had said could be imported from China. He said [] had been specifically interested in the importation of shrimp for use in the operation of the "SS Princess Louise" Restaurant in San Pedro, California. He advised [] asked him for quotations on shrimp that could be imported from China and he had referred [] to [] and had given [] the telephone number of []. [] stated he could not specifically recall mentioning the appointee's name to [] but he may have mentioned it if [] had inquired as to who the group was that [] represented. [] stated that after this one meeting with [] he has had no contact with him and he is aware of no deal that [] has made for importation of the shrimp.

On October 22, 1973, [] [], Los Angeles, California, advised SA [] he is retired from the [] in Washington, D. C.,

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where he was associated with the Business Department for approximately 25 years. [redacted]

[redacted] He is not knowledgeable concerning a firm known as Diversified Investment, Incorporated, or Directors Investment, Incorporated. [redacted] stated [redacted] has never been involved in the importation of products from Red China and the appointee has never been in any way associated with the corporation. [redacted] said he has met the appointee on only one occasion but that [redacted], [redacted], is [redacted] in Alexandria, Virginia, and that [redacted] is acquainted with the appointee and has a very high regard for him.

[redacted] stated that he was at one time connected with people in Washington, D. C., who were involved in trade with Red China. He said he has had no contact or relationship with these people in a number of months. [redacted] stated that the above association was through a man named [redacted] who is [redacted] to a member of Congress but he cannot recall the Congressman's name. [redacted] stated that his above association was not in any way connected with the appointee and he has no first-hand knowledge that the appointee has in any way been connected with [redacted]. He stated it is strictly rumor but he has heard that [redacted] at one time had been an employee of the appointee's in some capacity. [redacted] said he considers [redacted] to be very honorable and a very fine man. He stated that [redacted] had offered him certain items for sale and these items were to be imported from Red China. [redacted] stated he had made inquiries in the Los Angeles trade area as to the acceptability and prices that could be obtained for the merchandise offered for sale by [redacted] and the merchandise could not be sold because it was "overpriced." [redacted] did not recall how he met [redacted] but said he probably made his acquaintance through a third party.

[redacted] said that many products are offered to him for promotion from different sources and that he makes inquiries as to their marketability and if they do not check out they are "dropped." [redacted] said he believes he had written [redacted] a letter advising him his merchandise

LA 161-2471

could not be sold. [] stated that to his knowledge the name of the appointee was not involved in connection with the inquiries he made concerning the products to be imported from China and that he never represented the appointee as being involved with these products.

[] stated that he is not acquainted with [] although the name sounds familiar to him. He does not know an attorney by the name of [] and he is not acquainted with []. [] stated that he has talked with a number of people in connection with inquiries made concerning products to be imported from China and he could not remember all their names. [] said he is acquainted with [] and has had contact with [] in the last two or three days when [] made inquiry to him as to the marketability of certain commodities in which [] said he has no interest.

[] reiterated he has never used the appointee's name in connection with products to be imported from Red China and never used the appointee's name in discussions with [] concerning importation of these products. He further added he has lost respect for [] since in order to draw unemployment compensation [] had represented that he was an employee of Directors Financial Corporation, which he has never been.

[] reiterated that from what he knows of the appointee he has a high regard for him as does [] who is better acquainted with the appointee.

[] stated he does not know how [] can be contacted but that [] is [] to a member of the Congress from Fairfax County, Virginia, and has been employed at the Capitol for many years and should be well known there.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

Assoc. Dir. _____
Asst. Dir.: _____
Admin. _____
Comp. Syst. _____
Ext. Affairs _____
Files & Com. _____
Gen. Inv. _____
Ident. _____
Inspection _____
Intell. _____
Laboratory _____
Plan. & Eval. _____
Spec. Inv. ☒ _____
Training _____
Legal Coun. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director Sec'y _____

TO : Mr. Cleveland *WC*

DATE: 10/23/73

FROM : O. E. Coleman *EC*

SUBJECT: GERALD RUDOLPH FORD
VICE PRESIDENT DESIGNATE
SPECIAL INQUIRY

At approximately 5:00 p.m., October 19, 1973, then Deputy Attorney General Ruckelshaus advised Associate Director Callahan that he had arranged for a meeting in his office on October 23, 1973, with representatives of the two Congressional Committees which will be conducting hearings concerning Mr. Ford's nomination. The purpose of the meeting is to set up guidelines to limit dissemination of the "raw" reports in this case to only one member of each committee rather than to all of the committee members. He requested he be furnished a list of arguments as to why the dissemination of the FBI reports in this case should be strictly limited.

ACTION:

There is attached for dissemination to the Department a list of reasons for the policy of refusing to disclose or provide access to FBI files to persons outside the FBI, including members of Congress.

Enc.

- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Franck
- 1 - Mr. Cleveland
- 1 - Mr. Mintz
- 1 - Mr. Bowers
- 1 - Mr. Coleman

OEC:dc

-7-

I agree to meeting and distribution attached
WC
EC
10/23/73

BASES FOR POLICY OF REFUSING TO DISCLOSE
OR PROVIDE ACCESS TO FBI FILES

1. The historical concern of the FBI to protect the innocent from publication of unfounded allegations.
2. The need to protect individual privacy and, in some instances to protect the lives of persons, where our investigations have required confidential interviews.
3. The need to prevent disclosure of information even though it is true and accurate where it could be harmful to innocent persons or impair the opportunity of a defendant to enjoy his constitutional right to due process.
4. The absolute need to protect the First Amendment rights of citizens of this country to speak to Agents of the FBI without fear. The threat of disclosure and subsequent retribution would impose an intolerable burden on the freedom of communication.
5. Disclosure of FBI files would deny to the FBI needed information in possession of persons, who because of a natural reluctance, would be unwilling to assist in an investigation if they have reason to believe their information would not be held in confidence.
6. The need to protect those engaged in FBI operations from publication of their recorded comments, suggestions, and criticisms which enrich the administration of the FBI and afford the Director an environment for effective and well-considered decisions.

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DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Cleveland

DATE: 10-23-73

FROM : O. E. Coleman

SUBJECT: GERALD RUDOLPH FORD
VICE PRESIDENT DESIGNATE
SPECIAL INQUIRY

Assoc. Dir. ☒
Asst. Dir.:
Admin. ☐
Comp. Syst. ☐
Ext. Affairs ☐
Files & Com. ☐
Gen. Inv. ☐
Ident. ☐
Inspection ☐
Intell. ☐
Laboratory ☐
Plan. & Eval. ☐
Spec. Inv. ☒
Training ☐
Legal Coun. ☐
Telephone Rm. ☐
Director Sec'y ☐

Reference is made to my memorandum dated 10-18-73 attached to which were letters to General Haig at The White House and to the Attorney General transmitting the results of our investigation thus far concerning Mr. Ford to them. You were advised that a substantial part of the investigation was completed and there were other leads outstanding.

We have now interviewed over 500 additional persons concerning Mr. Ford. The interviews are generally favorable but some persons expressed opposition to his nomination for various reasons, such as he is a "rubber stamp image of President Nixon"; the Vice Presidency is "over his head"; he does not have the intellectual "horsepower" for the Presidency; he is a Republican; he is not capable of assuming the Presidency due to lack of perception and judgment; and his voting record in Congress.

We have interviewed the national leaders of the Americans for Democratic Action (ADA). It is noted that immediately upon the announcement of Ford's nomination, Joseph Rauh, Vice Chairman of the ADA, was featured in the press stating that ADA opposed the nomination. Rauh, upon interview, stated he and ADA are opposed to the confirmation of Ford only because they feel he has a "very poor" voting record. He stated he is aware of nothing of a derogatory nature in Ford's background. Representative Donald M. Fraser of Minnesota, National Chairman of the ADA, said he and Ford have differed with regard to legislative philosophy. He has been professionally acquainted with Ford for approximately six years and has no question concerning his character or integrity. He is withholding all further comments pending his confirmation.

Encs. - sent 10-24-73

REC-26

1 - Mr. Callahan
1 - Mr. Bowers
1 - Mr. Franck

1 - Mr. Cleveland
1 - Mr. Coleman
1 - Mr. Auerswald

DHY:OJA:dc

Memorandum to Mr. Cleveland

Re: Gerald Rudolph Ford

The previous memorandum indicated that Robert Winter-Berger, a former Washington lobbyist, wrote a book entitled "The Washington Pay-Off" published in 1972 in which he made statements concerning many Washington political figures, including Ford. One statement was to the effect that he paid one Alice Schowalter, also known as Alice Weston, \$1000 for an introduction to Ford. Schowalter is a personal friend of the Ford family. Mrs. Schowalter, upon interview, has advised that Winter-Berger's allegation is absolutely untrue and she had considered taking legal action against him. We have been trying to locate Winter-Berger for interview since this investigation began but his present location is unknown. He will be interviewed when located.

Investigation has indicated that in 1940 Ford went into partnership with Harry Conover in the formation of the Conover Model Agency in New York City, Ford contributing \$1000. Mr. Ford advised us that he was a silent partner and had no direct participation in the business. He stated that he went in the service during World War II and in 1944, by mutual agreement, he and Conover dissolved their relationship and Conover paid him his original investment plus \$5000. He said he had begun to suspect that Conover was not being truthful with regards to the financial reports of the agency.

In the summer of 1972 Ford was a member of an official United States delegation which visited Red China. An allegation was developed that a group of west coast businessmen circulated a rumor to the effect that Ford allegedly, while in China, made arrangements for the exclusive rights to certain Red Chinese products for sale in the United States. It was inferred that a firm to sell these items would be set up with no mention being made of Ford's name. Investigation into this matter has developed that such a business deal was discussed by a group of west coast businessmen but no one thus far can connect Ford with the matter in any way, except that his name was mentioned, along with other prominent individuals, because of his recent trip to Red China. We are still running out this nebulous allegation. Ford advised us that he knows nothing of any such arrangement.

Memorandum to Mr. Cleveland
Re: Gerald Rudolph Ford

[redacted] is [redacted]
[redacted] who is in deep trouble with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and has been convicted of income tax evasion. He has been furnishing IRS with all sorts of information on other people in efforts to obtain immunity for some of his derelictions. In May, 1973, he allegedly told IRS that he had given Ford \$500 for "contacts in the highway commission," not further explained. IRS furnished this information after Ford's nomination. [redacted] refused to be interviewed by us but consented to an interview with the IRS Agent who has been dealing with him. When interviewed he said he purchased five tickets at \$100 each for a Republican Party fund-raising dinner in Washington some years in the past, the original arrangements for the purchase of tickets having been made through one of Ford's administrative assistants whose name he does not recall. He met Ford at this dinner for the first time. He said he never received any favors from Ford.

In 1969 Ford introduced a private bill on behalf of an Italian alien illegally in the United States named [redacted]. Several other Congressmen entered similar bills on behalf of [redacted] which would have permitted him to legally remain in the United States. None of the bills were acted upon favorably. At that time Piemonte was employed by a cheese company in Wisconsin which was owned by an Italian family in Grand Rapids, Michigan, the [redacted]. There are unsubstantiated rumors in Michigan that the [redacted] have some connection with organized crime but our sources there say this cannot be substantiated.

Our accountants have conducted substantial investigation concerning Ford's finances, including his income, net worth, real estate holdings, campaign contributions, etc. Nothing improper has been thus far developed with regard to his financial background. We still have leads in this area which will be completed as quickly as possible.

We have just received a release to Mrs. Ford's psychiatrist and he will be promptly interviewed. We also have other interviews outstanding with individuals who have not been available or whose names have just come up recently.

Memorandum to Mr. Cleveland
Re: Gerald Rudolph Ford

As a matter of interest, we have interviewed Mr. Ford on several occasions during the investigation and he has been entirely cooperative and cordial. He has made available everything we have asked him for and has been very generous in making himself available to us for these interviews.

ACTION:

Attached are letters to General Haig at The White House and to the Acting Attorney General transmitting the results of our additional investigation to them. Again, two extra copies are being furnished to the Acting Attorney General. Our investigation is continuing.

Handwritten: [Signature]
[Signature]
K
[Signature]

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DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : MR. CLEVELAND

DATE: October 23, 1973

FROM : A. A. STAFFELD, JR.

SUBJECT: GERALD RUDOLPH FORD
SPECIAL INQUIRY

Time of Call: 11:25 am

Assoc. Dir. ☒
Asst. Dir.:
Admin. ☐
Comp. Syst. ☐
Ext. Affairs ☐
Files & Com. ☐
Gen. Inv. ☐
Ident. ☐
Inspection ☐
Intell. ☐
Laboratory ☐
Plan. & Eval. ☒
Spec. Inv. ☒
Training ☐
Legal Coun. ☐
Telephone Rm. ☐
Director Sec'y ☐

Director Kelley called to advise of an inquiry received from General Haig at the White House. The General desired assurances that we in the Bureau had not disseminated copies of the FBI reports in captioned matter to the Congress.

It is to be noted that the Bureau, of course, has not disseminated copies of the report to the Congress and further that this question was one which was to be considered by former Deputy Attorney General Ruckelshaus with the Congress this morning in view of the fact extra copies of the FBI reports had been made available to the Department of Justice for whatever action was contemplated by the Department. In view of Ruckelshaus's resignation, we do not have at the present time, the status of the plans announced by the Department prior to Ruckelshaus's resignation.

ACTION:

This is for record purposes.

- 1 - Mr. Cleveland
- 1 - Mr. Coleman
- 1 - Mr. Bruggeman

AAS:dlb

-4-

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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DATE 02-26-2008 BY 60324/UC/BAW/STP/bls

Assoc. Dir. ☒
Asst. Dir.:
Admin. ☐
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Laboratory ☐
Plan. & Eval. ☐
Spec. Inv. ☒
Training ☐
Legal Coun. ☐
Telephone Rm. ☐
Director Sec'y ☐

TO : Mr. Callahan

FROM : W. V. Cleveland

SUBJECT: GERALD RUDOLPH FORD
VICE PRESIDENT DESIGNATE
SPECIAL INQUIRY

DATE: 10-23-73

On the afternoon of 10-23-73, Legal Counsel John Mintz received a call from Pat McSweeney of the Department who advised that he is taking over for former Deputy Attorney General Ruckelshaus and is trying to set up ground rules for the handling of FBI reports in connection with the hearings regarding Ford. Mintz advised McSweeney that late Friday, 10-19-73, Ruckelshaus had requested Mr. Callahan to furnish a list of arguments as to why the dissemination of the FBI reports in this case should be strictly limited. Mintz also advised McSweeney that General Haig had called Director Kelley this morning, 10-23, wherein the General desired assurances that the Bureau had not disseminated copies of the Ford FBI reports to the Congress. Mintz asked that the writer call McSweeney to clarify any questions he might have in this connection.

McSweeney advised the writer that in talking to Ruckelshaus it was his understanding that efforts would be made to restrict FBI reports to the chairman and ranking member of the committees, and that the reports would have to be reviewed at the Department. McSweeney stated that this is the same rule that is followed with the Senate Judiciary Committee at the present time. No summaries are to be furnished to members of Congress. The files will not be taken to the Hill or left at the Hill for review by staff members.

McSweeney advised the writer that Mr. Fielding at the White House called him this morning, 10-23, and wanted to be certain that the summary of information, which was prepared in the form of a letter to General Haig, is not given to members of Congress.

- 1 - Mr. Mintz
- 1 - Mr. Franck
- 1 - Mr. Bowers
- 1 - Mr. Cleveland
- 1 - Mr. Coleman

WVC:mkc

Memorandum to Mr. Callahan
RE: GERALD RUDOLPH FORD
VICE PRESIDENT DESIGNATE
SPECIAL INQUIRY

McSweeney stated that he would like someone from the Bureau to accompany him when he goes to the Hill to try to work out these ground rules, and that he would prefer that this be a member of our Legal Counsel's office rather than someone with a knowledge of the contents of our reports on Ford.

ACTION:

The writer telephonically furnished the above information to Director Kelley, who approved the arguments to be utilized in an effort to restrict widespread dissemination of FBI reports in this case. Director Kelley also approved Legal Counsel John Mintz's accompanying Pat McSweeney in discussing ground rules with committee members. As of 3:05 p. m., 10-23-73, Mintz and Pat McSweeney had departed for the Hill for their meeting with the committee members.

K MC [Signature]

D. W. Bowers to Mr. Franck Memo
RE: GERALD R. FORD

he hoped and expected that the Department's decision to have all Congressional inquiries come through the Attorney General would be forthcoming soon and that the appropriate Congressional Committees would agree.

As it stands, we may still receive direct inquiries from the Senate Committee, and possibly the House Committee, but if we do, the Committees' staffs are aware that we will first refer the inquiries to the Department and that the responses will go through the Department.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

for

[Signature]

K

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Page 62 ~ Duplicate

Page 63 ~ Duplicate

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